

MARVEL



\$1.50 US
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48
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APPROVED
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COMICS
CODE
AUTHORITY

CONAN THE KING

DOCHERTY & BATOR



Know Ye O Prince, that with the war's end, King Conan returned to a troubled kingdom. He had gained a sprawling empire, tangled alliances, and an empty treasury for all his conquests. As unrest settled over the land, he rode into the Bossonian Marches in...

The WINTER of DISCONTENT

FOR THE LOVE OF MITRA, CONAN!
SLOW DOWN
YOUR PACE!

PALLANTIDES!
WE HAVE REBELLION
ON OUR HANDS! NO
TIME TO WASTE!



DON KRAAR
STORY
MICHAEL DOCHERTY
PENCILS
FRAJA BATOR
INKS
RICK PARKER
LETTERING
GEORGE ROUSSOS
COLOR
MICHAEL HIGGINS
EDITOR
TOM DEFALCO
EDITOR IN CHIEF

DOCHERTY & BATOR



HOLD YOUR MOUNTS! HERE COMES SCIPIO, MY SCOUT!



YOUR MAJESTY, THE CIMMERIANS HAVE TAKEN THE CITADEL OF THE HAWK.

THEY'RE HOLDING THE BARRISON HOSTAGE! THEY DEMAND TO SEE YOU!



THE CIMMERIAN CHIEFTAIN, VORIC, AWAITS!

VORIC--THAT SCAVENGER DARES DEFEY ME?



I'M GOING IN ALONE. IF I'M NOT BACK BY THE TIME THE SUN COMES OUT FROM BEHIND THOSE CLOUDS, YOU ATTACK, PAL-LANTIDES.

BUT BUT... YOUR MAJESTY, YOU CAN'T BE SERIOUS! THEY COULD MURDER YOU!



BY CROM, IF IT ISN'T KING CONAN HIMSELF! THERE'S A RUMOR THAT YOU ARE A CIMMERIAN, CONAN. COULD IT BE?

IS THIS HOW YOU HONOR YOUR PLEDGE OF FEALTY TO ME, BY SEIZING ONE OF MY FORTS AND HOLDING HOSTAGES?

THE WAR IS OVER, CONAN. ALL WE WANT IS A BETTER SHARE OF THE SPOILS. YOU WOULDN'T HAVE A KINGDOM IF IT WEREN'T FOR YOUR ALLIES!

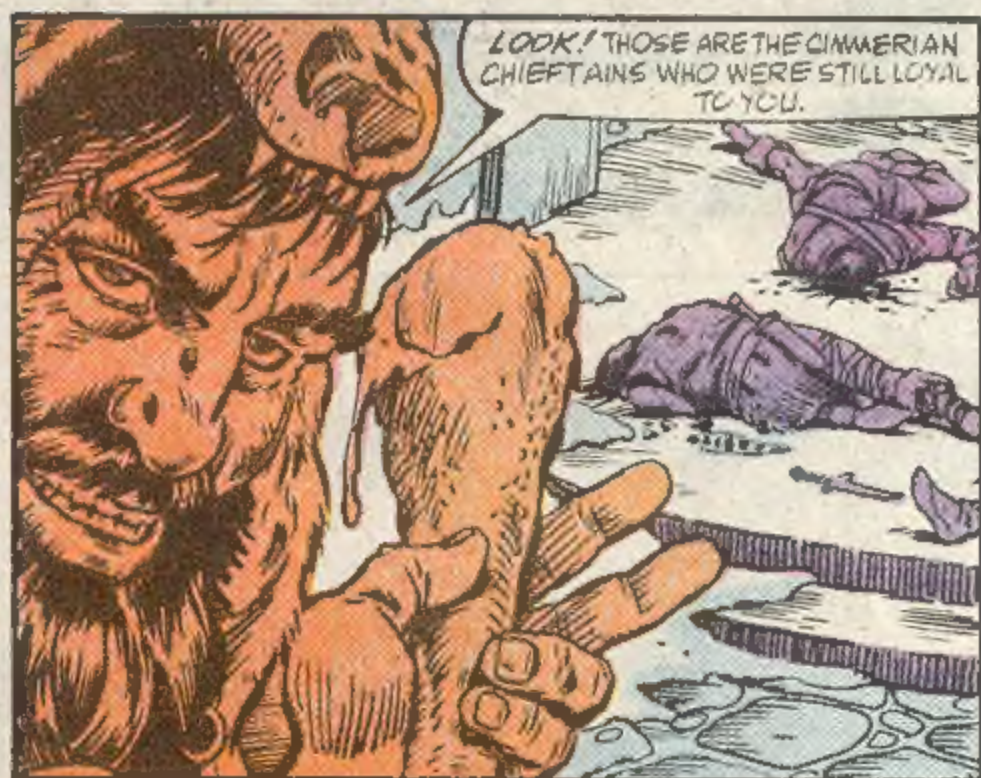


WE FOUGHT FOR YOU, CONAN. WE DESERVE TO BE REWARDED.

AYE, PLUNDER IS TEMPORARY. WE WANT LAND--WE WANT THE BOSSONIAN MARCHES!

VORIC! HERE'S "KING" CONAN, UNDER A WHITE FLAG OF TRUCE!

BEELCHIE! FETCH ME ANOTHER TANKARD OF ALE, LAD! AND SEND IN THAT CONAN!





BOLD WORDS FOR AN OLD MAN, CONAN!



YOUR MAJESTY!

THE DOG WHINES!



VORIC! OUTSIDE, MY MEN ARE POISED TO ATTACK!



CONAN, MY WOLVES WOULD TEAR YOU TO PIECES BEFORE YOUR AQUILONIANS COULD GET INSIDE!

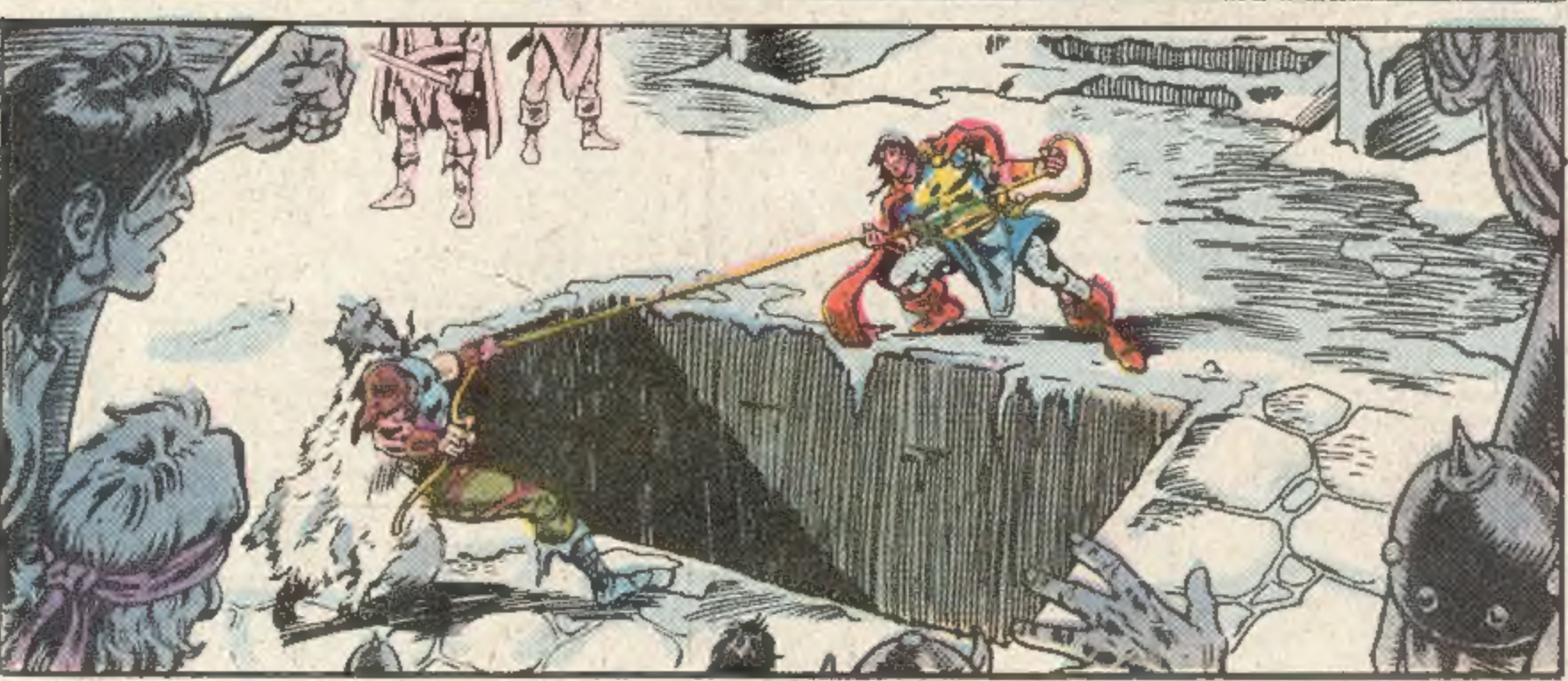
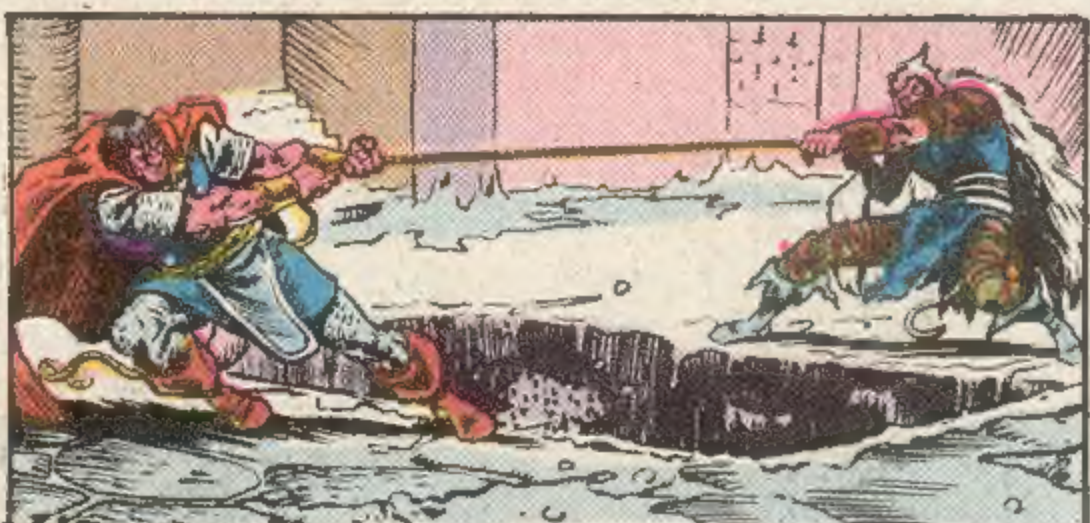
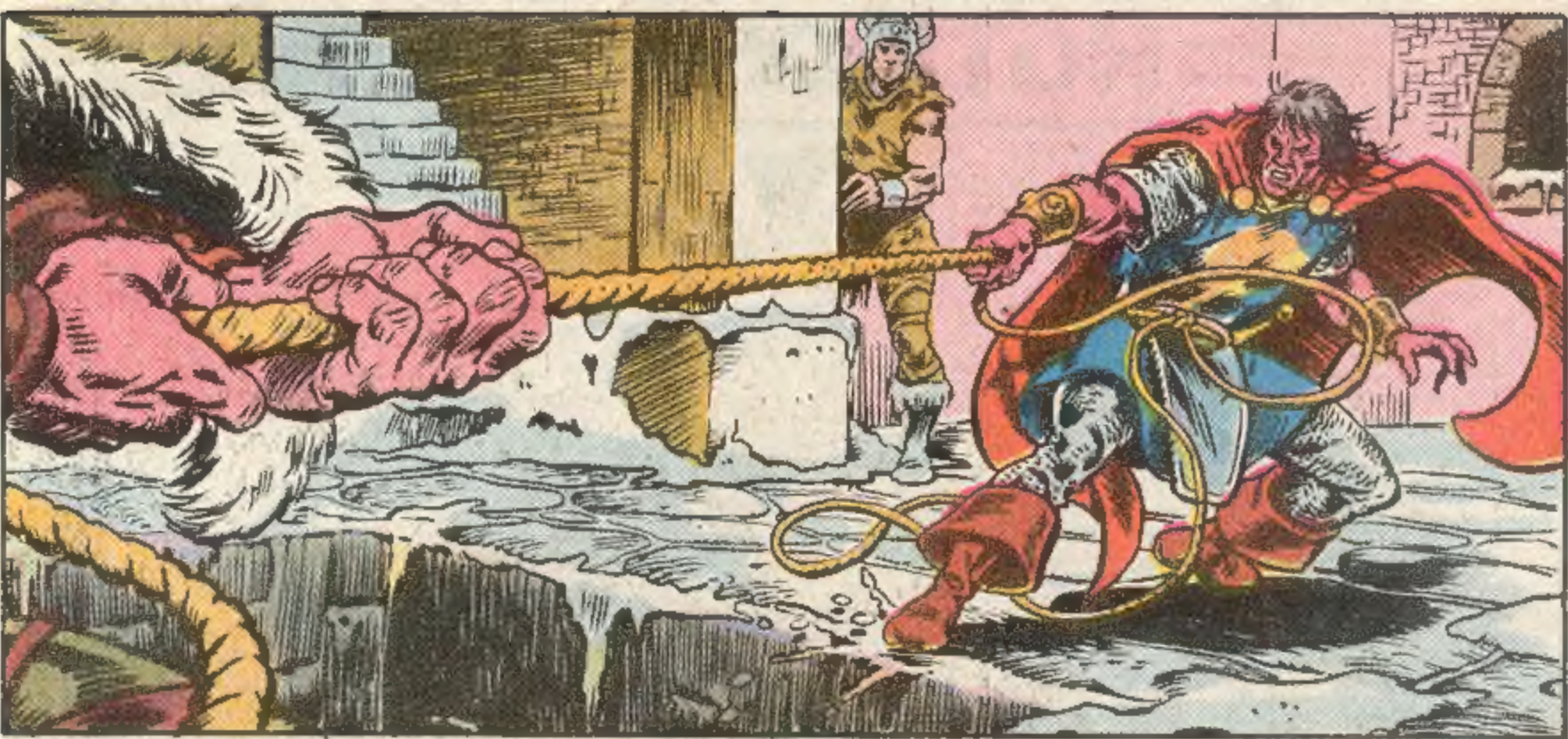
THAT SOUNDS LIKE A CHALLENGE!

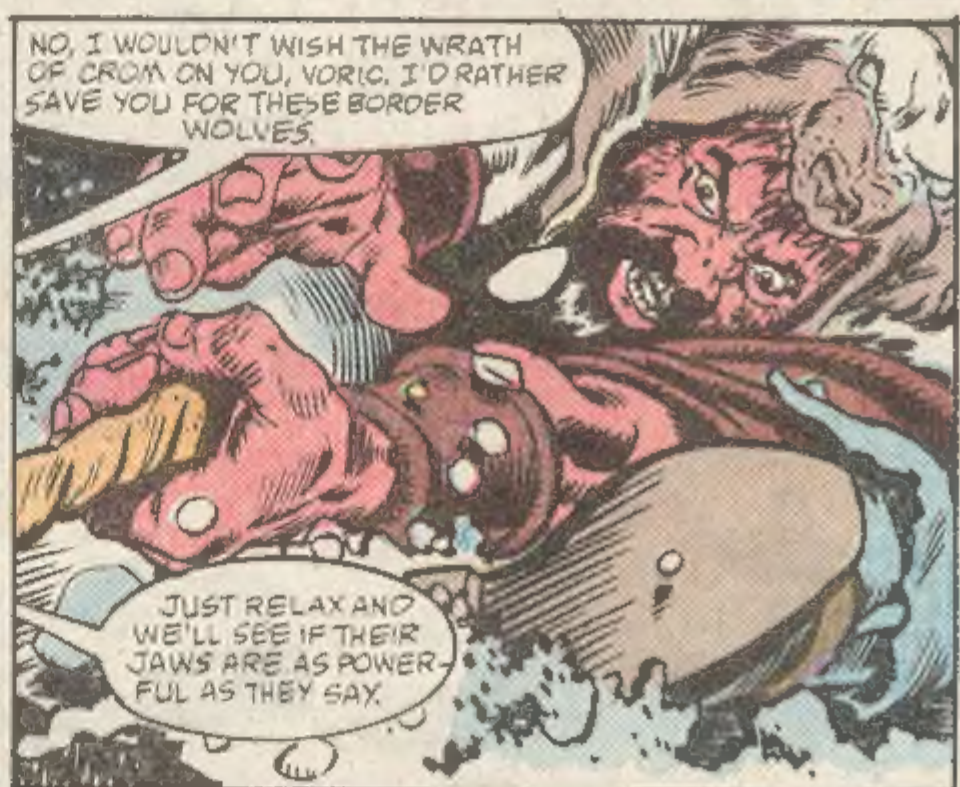
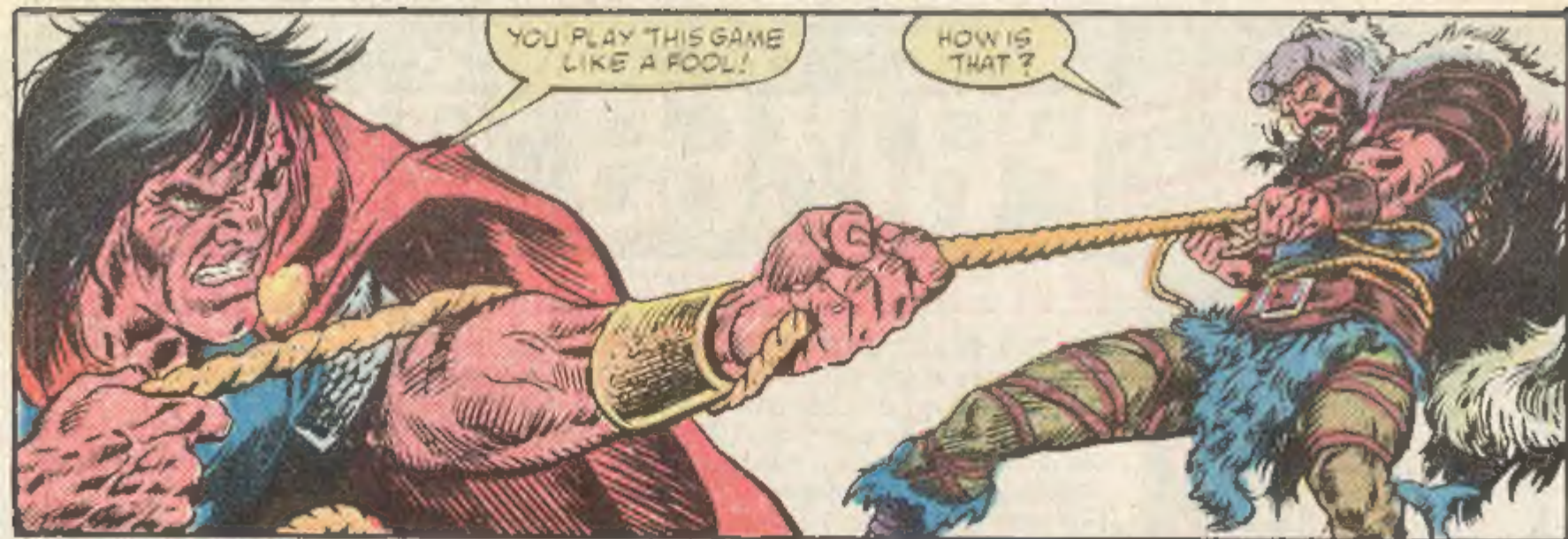


GOOD! I ACCEPT!

CROM TAKE YOU!









I'LL SEE YOU IN ARALLU FIRST, CONAN!



HAVE IT YOUR OWN WAY THEN!



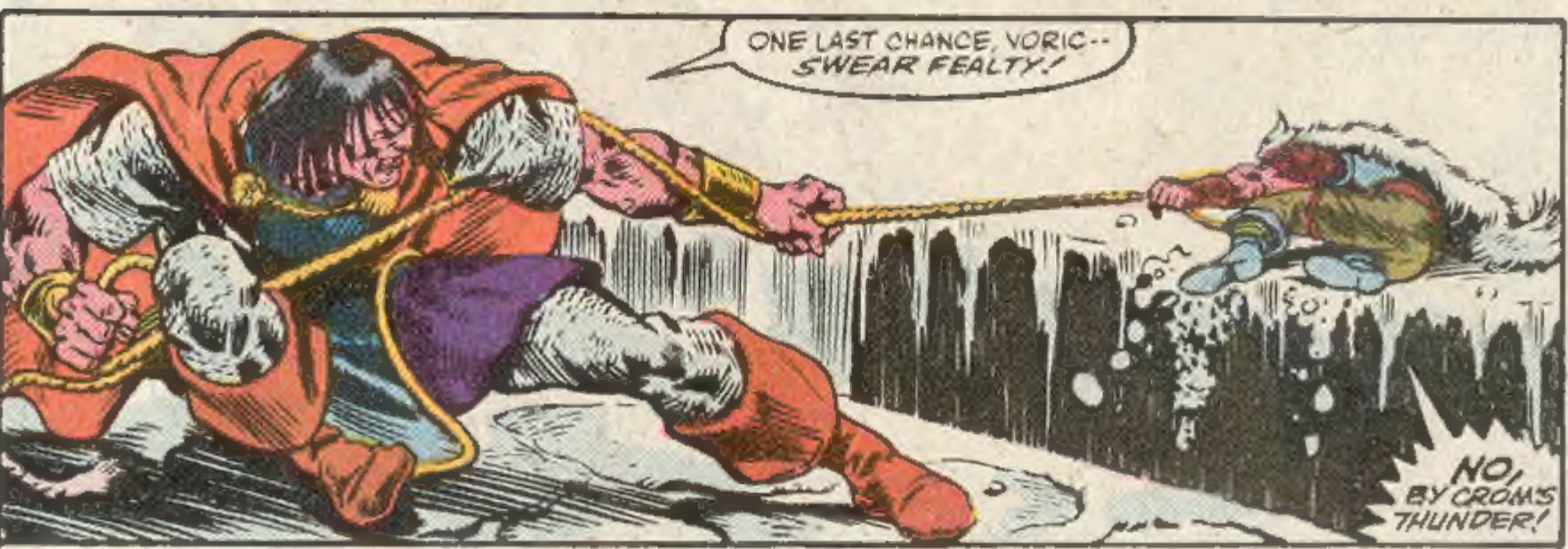
DON'T BE TOO SURE OF THAT, OLD MAN!



THERE-- THE SUN IS SHOWING ITSELF. IT'S TIME TO JOIN THE KING-- ALIVE OR DEAD!



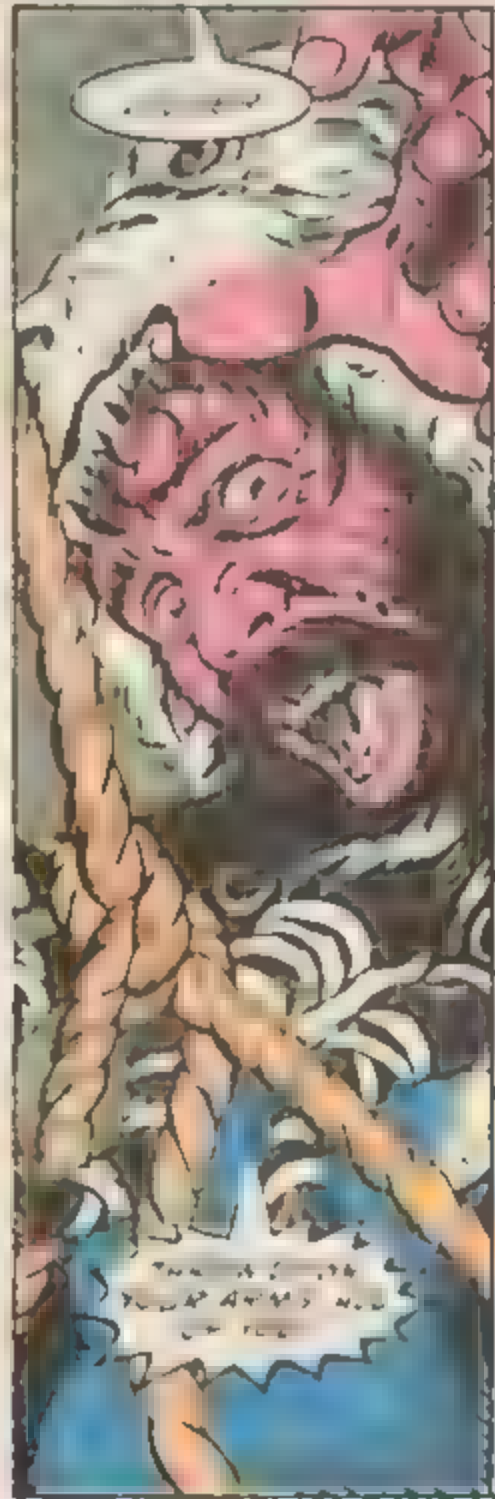
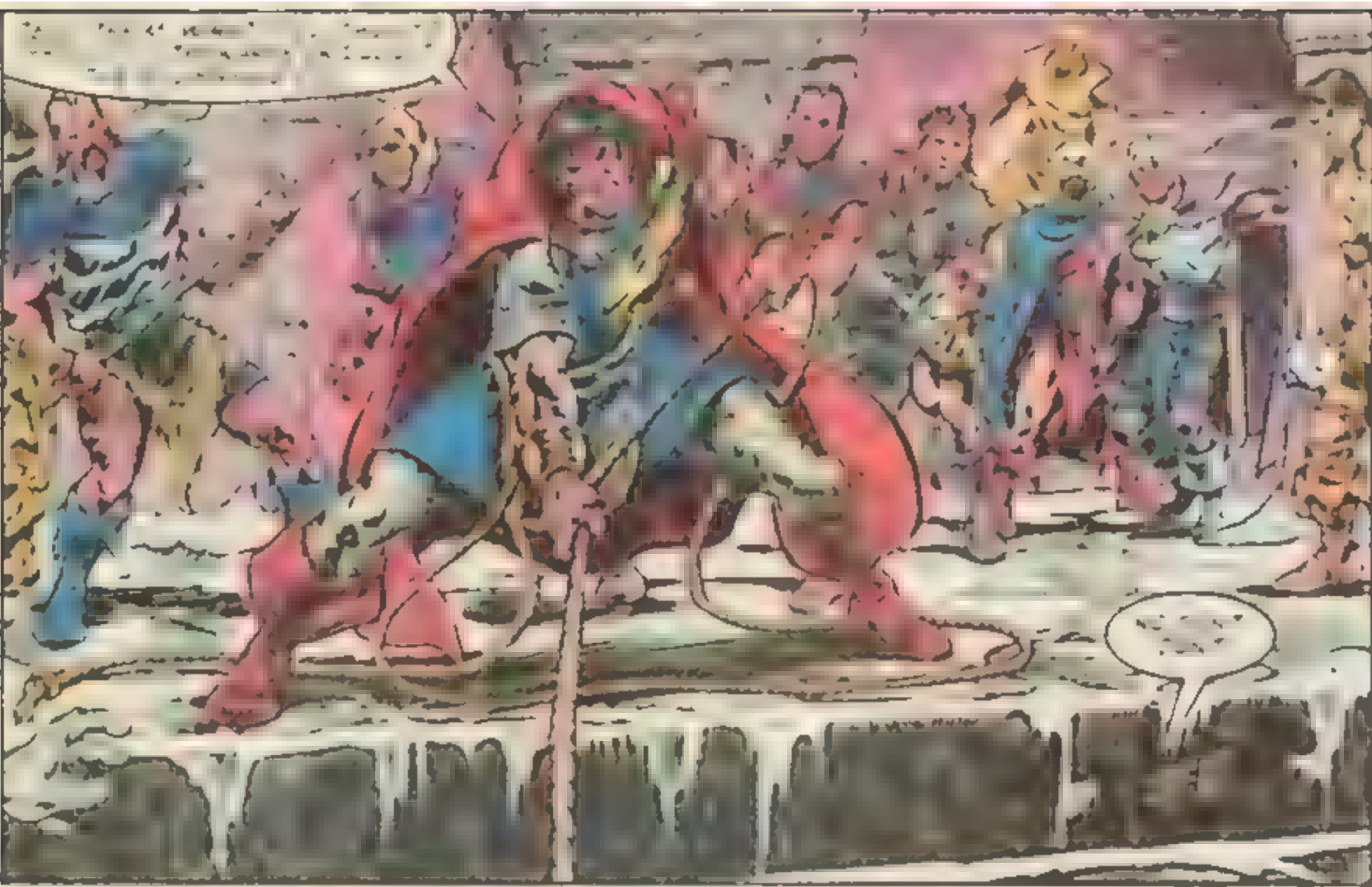
LADS, THE KING OF AQUILONIA IS EXPECTING US. LET'S SEE THAT HE'S NOT DISAPPOINTED.

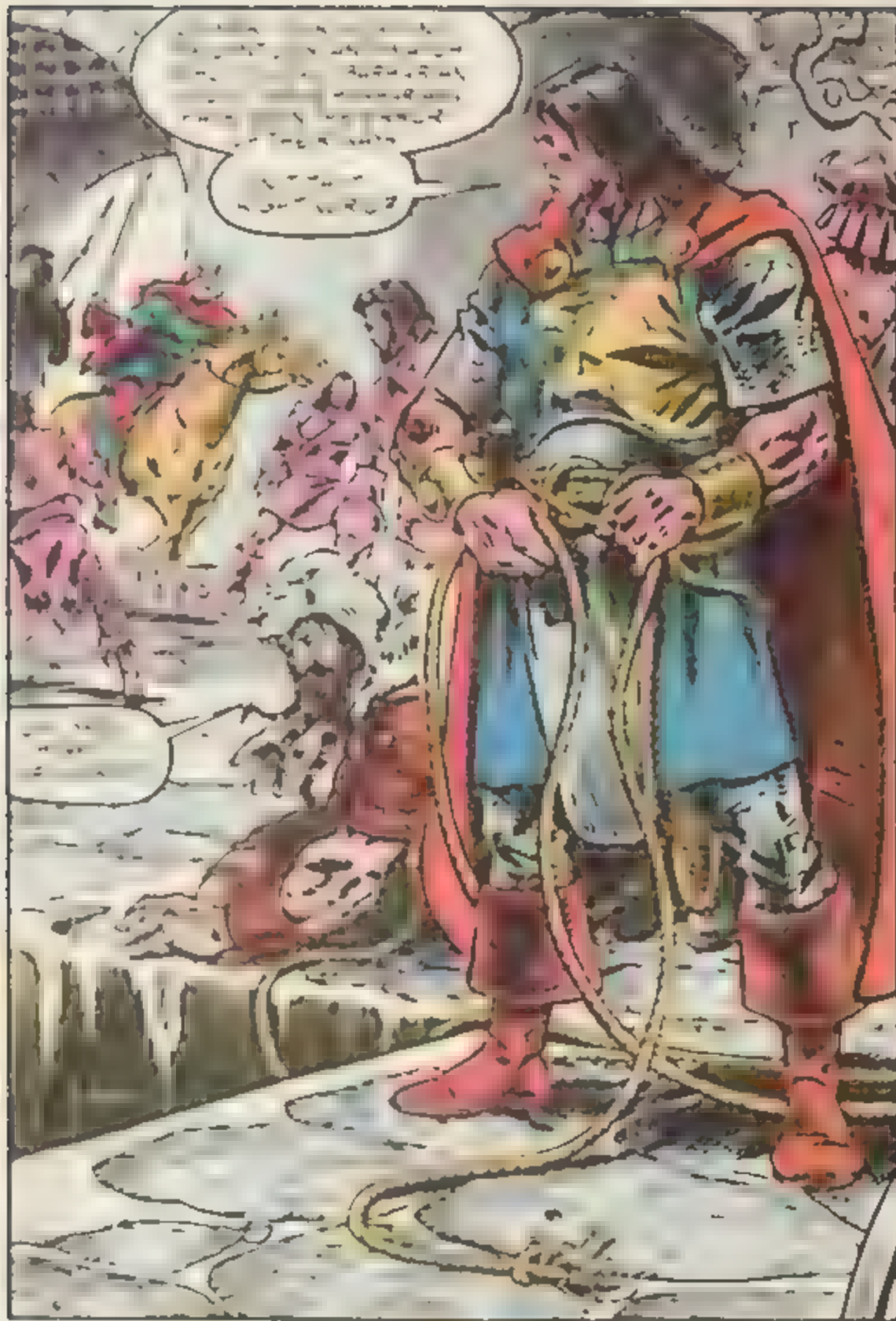


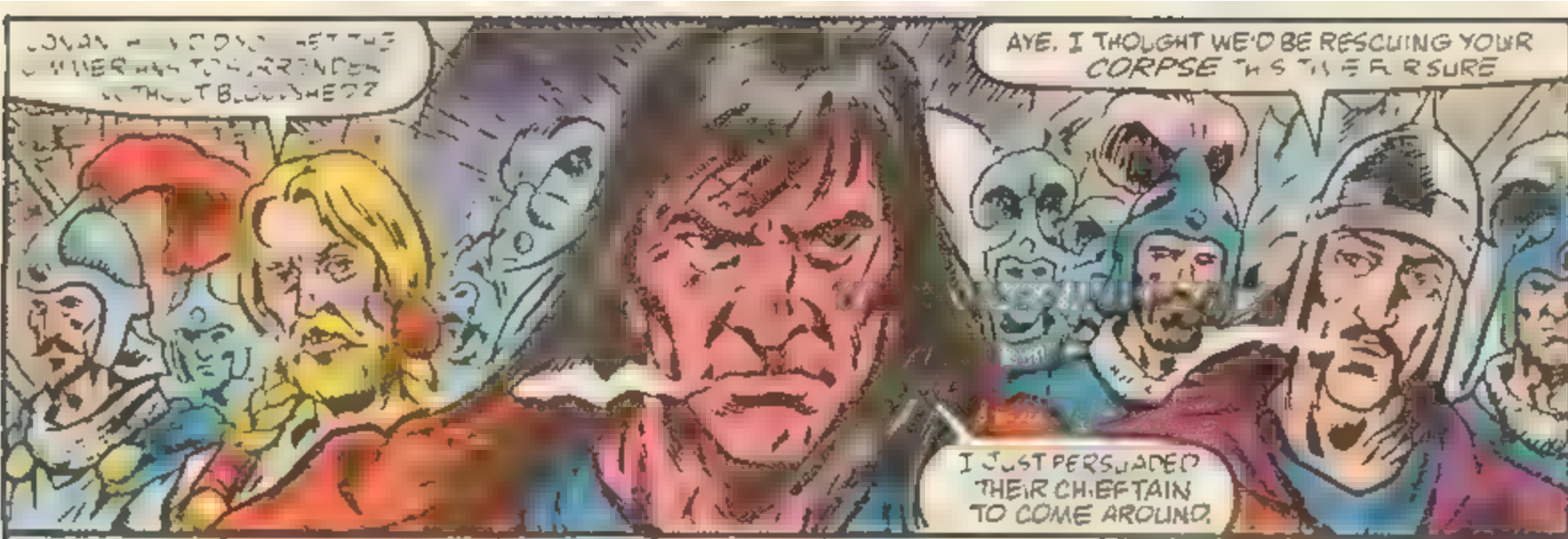
ONE LAST CHANCE, VORIC-- SWEAR FEALTY!

NO, BY CROM'S THUNDER!





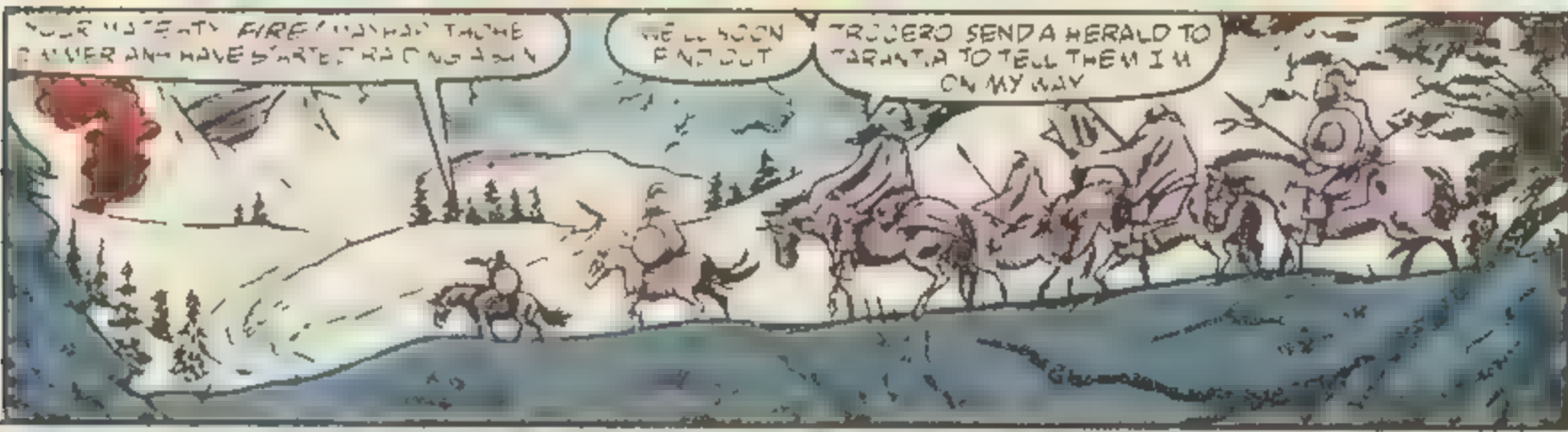




JOAN - I DON'T LET THE
WINTER WIN TO SURRENDER
WITHOUT BLOODSHED?

AYE, I THOUGHT WE'D BE RESCUING YOUR
CORPSE THIS TIME FOR SURE

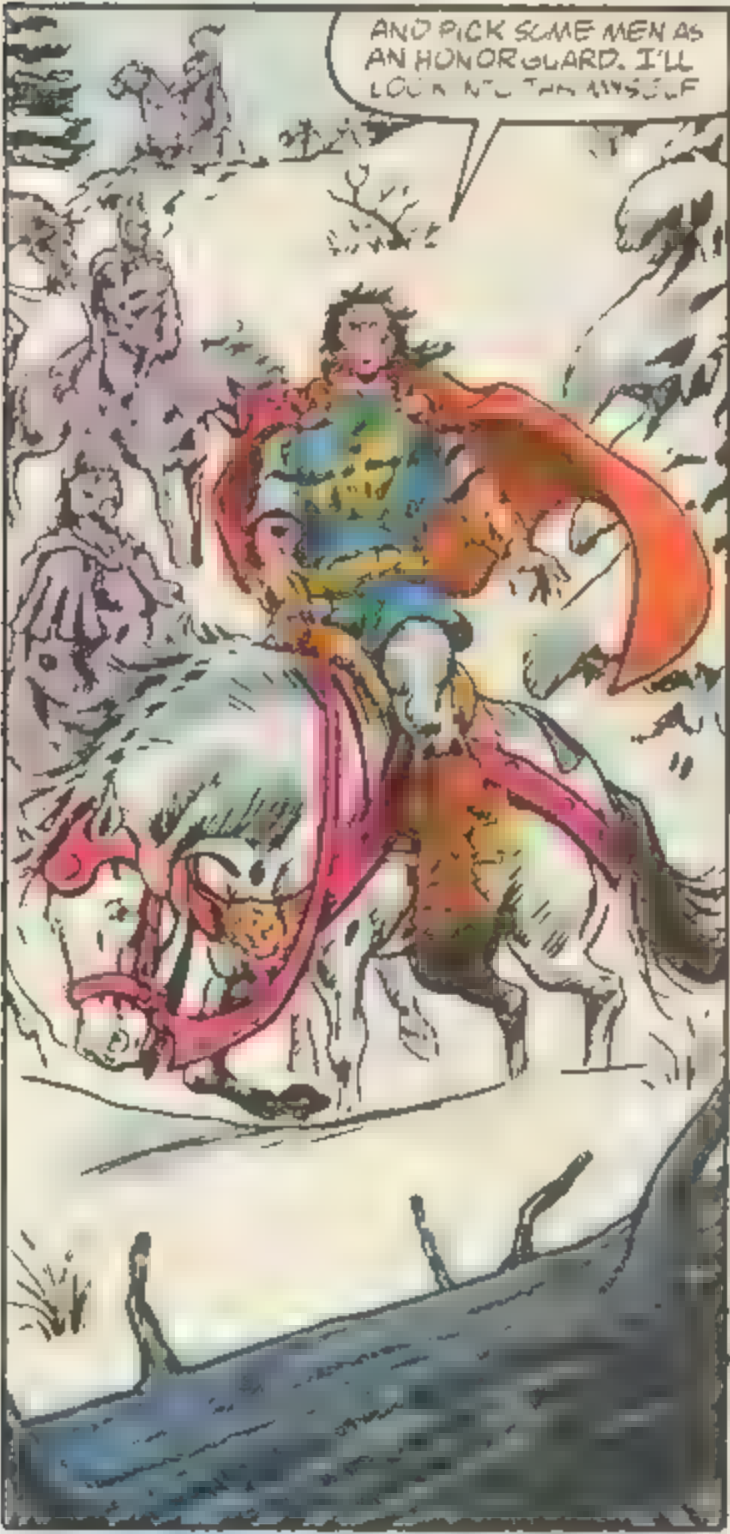
I JUST PERSUADED
THEIR CHIEFTAIN
TO COME AROUND.



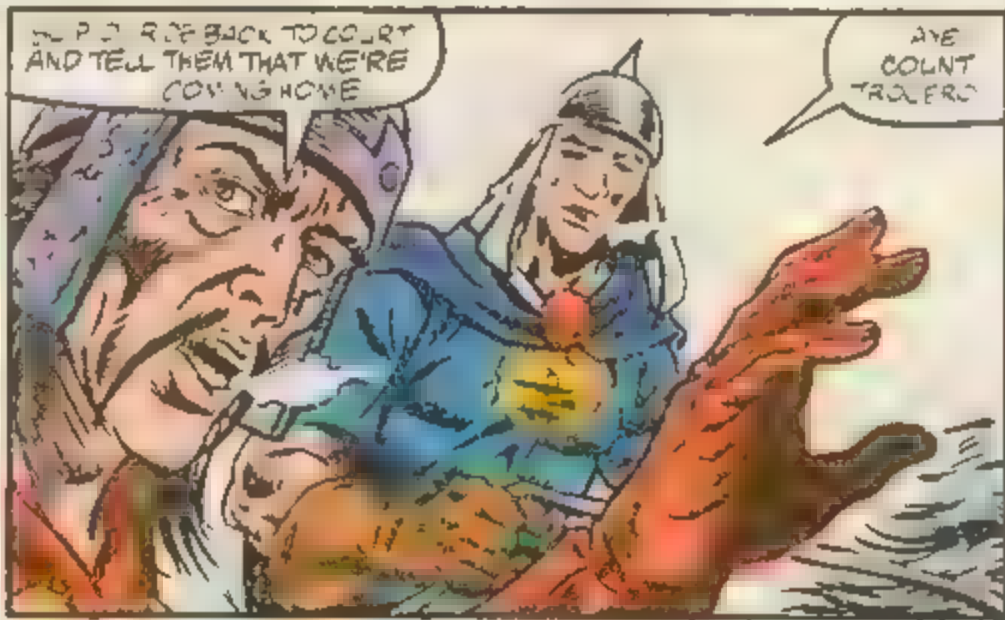
YOUR INSTANT FIRE BURNED THE
RAVENS AND HAVE STARTED HAD NO AM

WE'LL SOON
END OUT

TRUDERO SEND A HERALD TO
TARANTIA TO TELL THEM I'M
ON MY WAY



AND PICK SOME MEN AS
AN HONOR GUARD. I'LL
LOOK UP TO THEM MYSELF

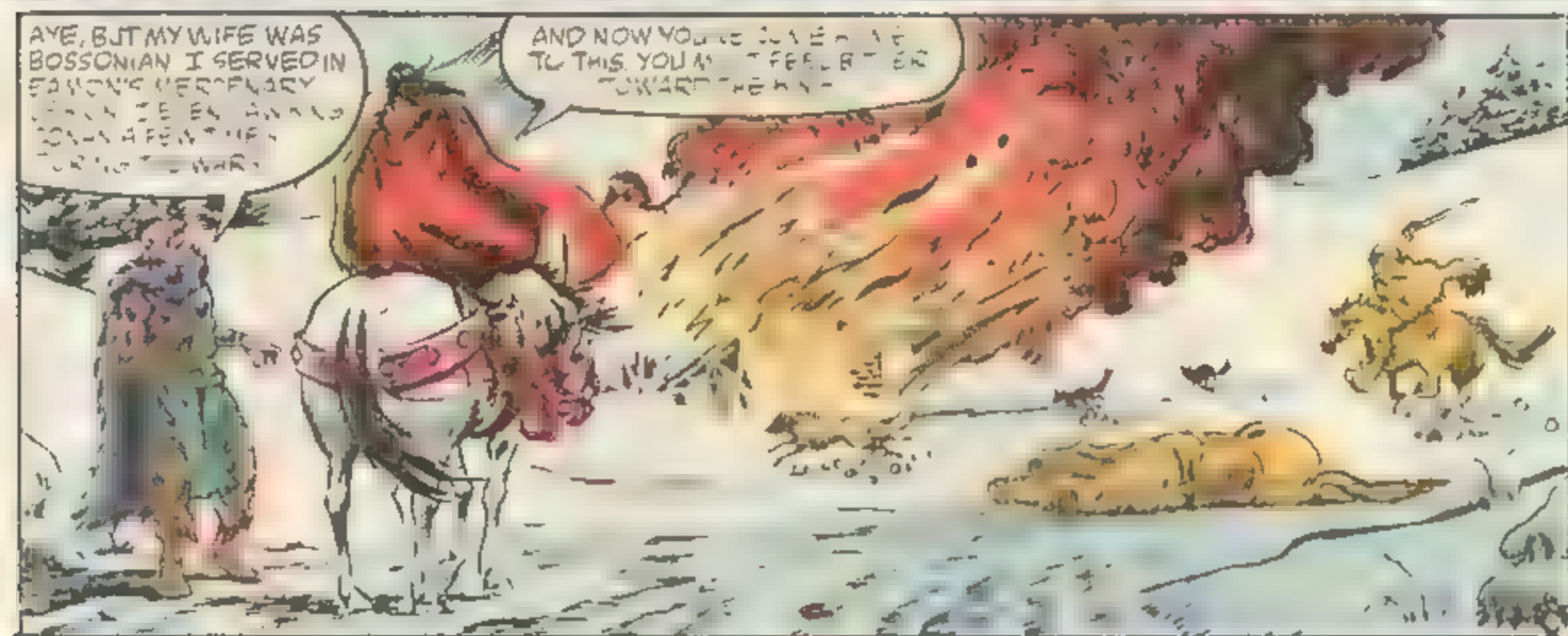
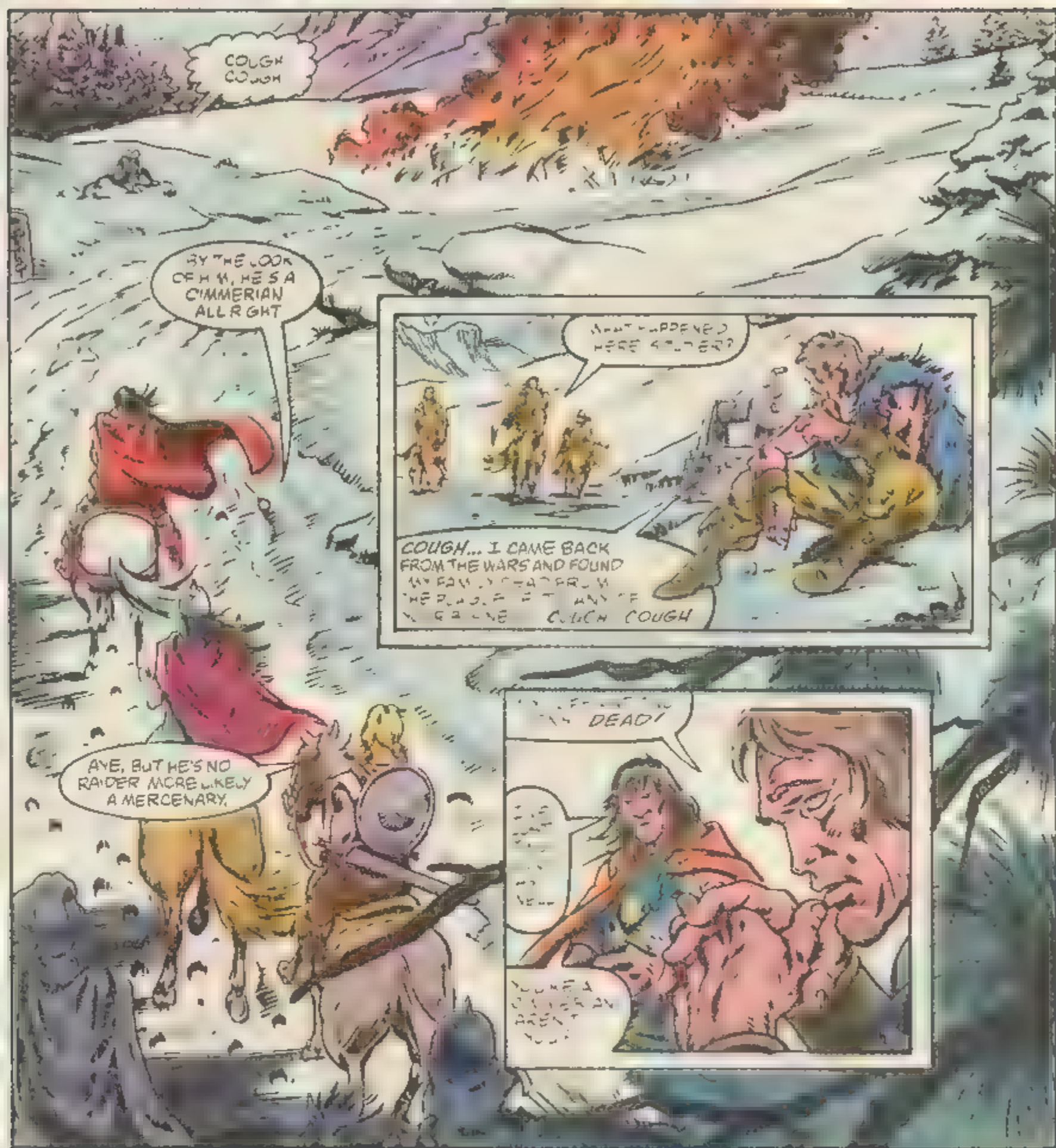


IN P.D. RIDE BACK TO COURT
AND TELL THEM THAT WE'RE
COMING HOME

AYE
COUNT
TRUDERO



LET'S SEE
WHO'S GETTING
FRESH
THE DEATH OF
WINTER



FAR TO THE EAST, ON THE SHORES OF THE
OCEAN, THE PROUD GLITTERING
COURT OF THE EMPEROR, KING

BEHOLD THE MOST FEAR
WARRIOR IN THE WORLD WHO
COMMANDS THE SUN AND THE
MOON AS WELL AS THE RAIN
FROM HIS HANDS ALL BLESSINGS
FLOW. BEFORE HIS WRATH, ALL
FOES ARE DESTROYED.

THE EMPEROR, KING OF THE
LAND OF THE SUN, IS NOW
ABOUT TO VISIT THE LAND OF THE

NOT YET A LIEN IN MY REEF
THE LAND OF THE SUN IS
KING YEZO GERDE!

ONCE AGAIN YOUR
ELOQUENCE REMINDS
ME OF MY DUTY TO
TARIM. BUT NOW I
HAVE ANOTHER
DUTY.

AFFAIRS OF STATE HAVE
KEPT ME AWAY FROM MY
FAMILY TOO LONG.



YOUR IMPERIAL MAJESTY, ONCE AGAIN
THANK YOU FOR THE HONOR OF YOUR
SERVICES

SPEAK PLAINLY, VIZIER. TELL ME I
HAVE MORE CONC AND I KNOW I
HAVE BEEN

THEY WERE ALL THE SAME IN THE PAST
WELL, A LITTLE DIFFERENT, BUT ONLY
BECAUSE THEY WERE ALL THE SAME
EXCEPT IN A FEW DETAILS



I GIVE THANKS
TO THE GODS FOR
MY NEW OFFSPRING.

THEY ARE
THE SAME
AS THE OTHERS

FORTY-SEVEN IN NUMBER
TWENTY-ONE IN 'WENTY-ONE
DAUGHTERS THAT HAVE
BY THE WAY, WITH IN
ADDITION, THERE ARE 161 BY
YOUR 'S CORRELATION AT
LAST COUNT

THEY WERE ALL THE SAME
IN THE PAST
WELL, A LITTLE DIFFERENT, BUT ONLY
BECAUSE THEY WERE ALL THE SAME
EXCEPT IN A FEW DETAILS



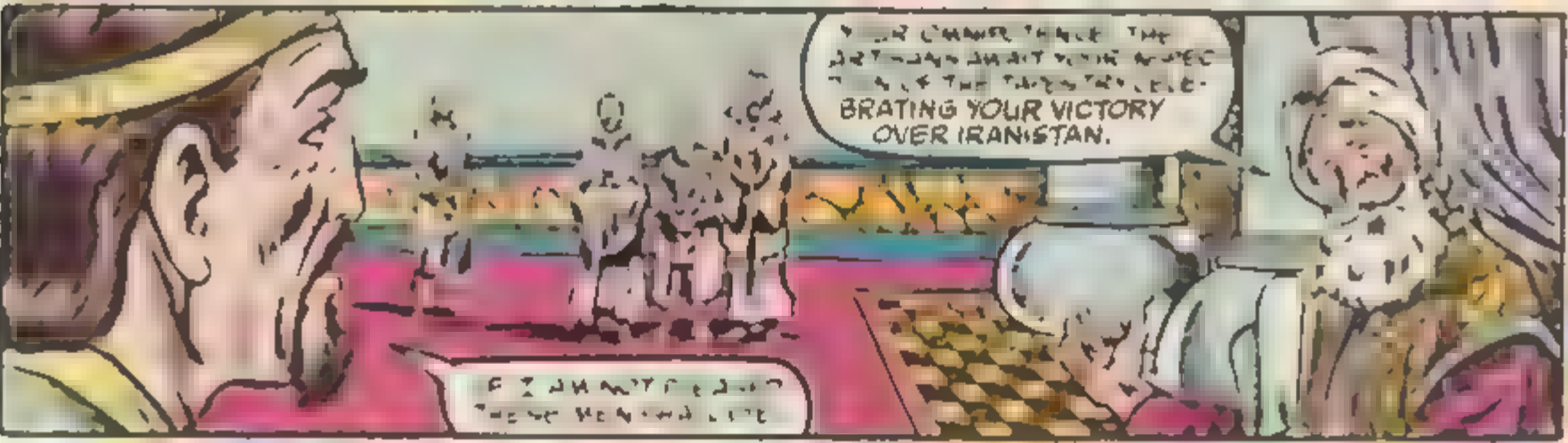
THERE, YOUR
HIGHNESS... TWO
STRAPPING BOYS...

THEY WERE ALL THE SAME
IN THE PAST
WELL, A LITTLE DIFFERENT, BUT ONLY
BECAUSE THEY WERE ALL THE SAME
EXCEPT IN A FEW DETAILS



AND A FEW
HEALTHY
ONE

THEY WERE ALL THE SAME
IN THE PAST
WELL, A LITTLE DIFFERENT, BUT ONLY
BECAUSE THEY WERE ALL THE SAME
EXCEPT IN A FEW DETAILS



YOUR COMER, THEN THE
JETHAN, ABOUT YOUR SPEC
TAL OF THE TALENTS, CELE-
BRATING YOUR VICTORY
OVER IRANISTAN.

THEY WERE ALL THE SAME
IN THE PAST
WELL, A LITTLE DIFFERENT, BUT ONLY
BECAUSE THEY WERE ALL THE SAME
EXCEPT IN A FEW DETAILS

LET ME LEARN ME, THEY'VE CAUGHT THE
GRANDFATHER OF THE MEMENTO, IT BRINGS
AS A MEMENTO



IF IT PLEASES YOUR HIGHNESS I WILL
SEE THAT THEY ARE REWARDED.

YES,
SEE
THAT
IT IS
DONE.



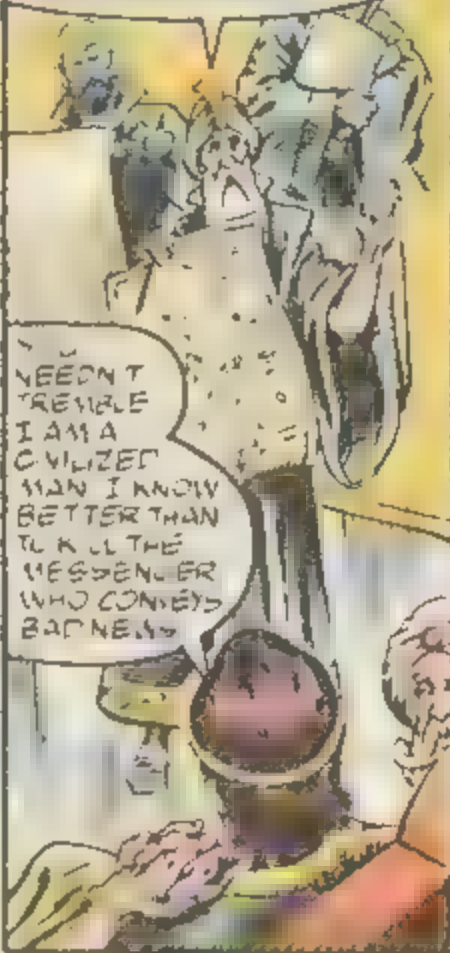
AND
THEN TO
PREPARE
FOR A WORK
TO CELEBRATE
MY EVENTUAL
VICTORY OVER
KING CONAN

YOUR HIGHNESS THE IMPERIAL
ASTROLOGERS HAVE CONSULTED
THE STARS REGARDING THAT
AFFAIR



THEN I
WILL HEAR
THEM OUT

YOUR OMNIPOTENCE I FEEL
TO TELL YOU THAT THIS IS
NOT A PROPITIOUS MOMENT
FOR THE VENTURE YOU CON-
TEMPLATE. WE IMPLORE
YOU TO BE DEFERENTIAL
UNTIL THE STARS ARE IN
FAVORABLE ASPECT.



NEEDN'T
TREMBLE
I AM A
CIVILIZED
MAN I KNOW
BETTER THAN
TALK TO THE
MESSENGER
WHO CONVEYS
BAD NEWS

I WILL WAIT IN THE MEANTIME,
MY AGENTS IN AQUILON WILL
HASTEN KING CONAN'S FALL
FROM POWER



AND THERE IS
ANOTHER WHO
WILL SERVE ME
IN TIME

IN THE MOTHER OF
ALL MOTHERS YOU
DON'T WANT A
PLAYER IN YOUR HAND?



HOW TALKING

TAR HIS BLESSINGS
UPON YOU MIGHTY
KING!

MERCY! MERCY!
YOUR HIGHNESS!

WE BEG FOR YOUR
OMNIPOTENCE NO
MORE TORTURE!
WE'VE HAD ALL WE
CAN BEAR!



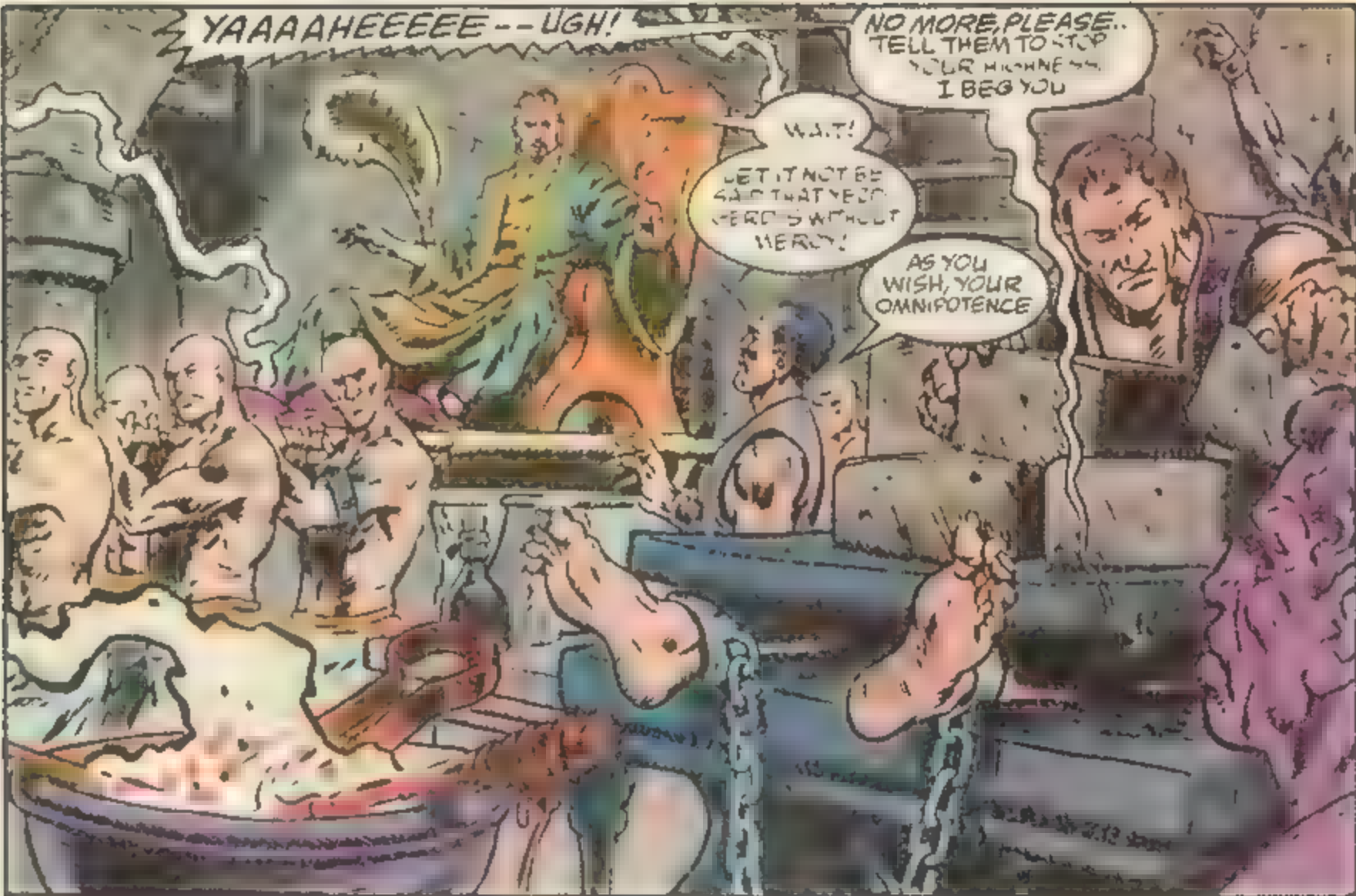
YAAAAHEEEEE--UGH!

NO MORE, PLEASE.
TELL THEM TO STOP
YOUR HIGHNESS.
I BEG YOU

WAIT!

LET IT NOT BE
SAID THAT YOUR
SERVANTS WITHOUT
MERCY!

AS YOU
WISH, YOUR
OMNIPOTENCE



THANK YOU
THANK YOU
YOUR GRACE
YOUR HIGHNESS I GASPE
I HAD ALMOST
LOST HOPE...



WHAT WAS THE
MAN LIKE
GOVERNOR?

HERE STEPHEN
HAD NO MORE
NO MORE
YOUR GRACE
YOUR HIGHNESS
I HAD ALMOST
LOST HOPE...



A SERIOUS OFFENSE. IT COULD
HAVE BEEN A CAPITAL CRIME IF
IT WERE NOT FOR MY FORGIVING
NATURE.

NO MY PREROGATIVE
WILL HAVE TO SUFFER A
LITTLE LONGER TO LIVE
FOR SUCH OBEDIENCE



BUT MY FORGIVING
NATURE IS TRAINED
BY OBSTINACY

ARZ. UM. ARZAR.
HOW DO YOU PRONOUNCE
THIS FOOL'S NAME?

YOUR HIGHNESS
NO ONE CAN
PRONOUNCE HIS
NAME.

IT'S PRONOUNCED
"ARZARBONODUS,"
VERY SIMPLE, EQUAL
STRESS ON EACH
SYLLABLE.

IT TOOK
ME A FEW
CENTURIES
TO GET
USED TO IT,
MYSELF

MAGICIAN, I'M
NEARING THE END
OF MY PATIENCE.



THAT'S FUNNY, SO AM
I. OUGHT TO DO SOME-
THING ABOUT THE FOOD
AROUND HERE YEZ OL'
BOY, NOT TO MENTION
THE RATS AND THE HEAT--
UGHT TO INSTALL CENT-
RAL HEATING Y KNOW?
OH, OF COURSE NOT, HASN'T
BEEN INVENTED YET

MAGICIAN, DON'T PLAY
ME FOR A FOOL. SHARE
YOUR SECRET WITH ME
AND YOU'LL GO FREE.
ACT LIKE A DODDERING
IDIOT AND MY CHIEF
TORTURER WILL DEAL
WITH YOU



"DODDERING"
EH? WELL, YOU'D
DODDER TOO IF
YOU LIVED AS
MANY DIFFERENT
AGES AS I HAVE.

HONESTLY DON'T KNOW
IF I'M COMING OR GOING
CAN'T BE SURE IF I'M
LIVING FORWARDS AND
GETTING OLDER OR
LIVING BACKWARDS AND
GETTING YOUNGER BIT
CONFUSING.



THE SECRET,
MAGICIAN

"SECRET?" WHAT
SECRET? I
LIKE SECRETS.

THE ONE YOU CALL
"TELEPORTATION."



OH THAT
ONE.

I'M WAITING

WELL IT'S LIKE THIS - LAST
TIME I DID IT WAS IN ANCIENT
ARCHERON. GOT STUCK IN A
TEMPLE WALL. HAD TO WAIT A
CENTURY TILL SOMEONE
KNOCKED IT DOWN AND SET
ME FREE

WH WHERE WAS I? WHAT WAS
IT YOU WANTED TO KNOW?

TELEPORTATION, YOU
IMBECILE!



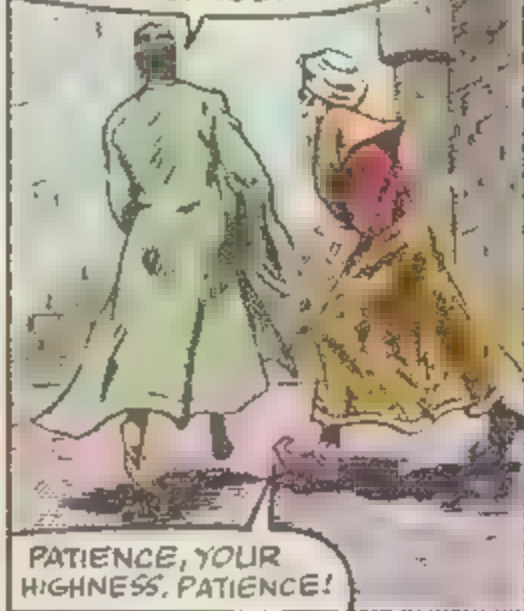
PLEASE YOUR
OMNIPOTENCE,
THIS IS GETTING
US NOWHERE.

OH, YES, YES, YES, YES...
AH, CAN'T REMEMBER
FOR THE LIFE OF ME



LIKE TO SEE
ME PULL A RABBIT
OUT OF MY HAT?

MAGICIAN, IF YOU HAVEN'T
REMEMBERED BY TOMORROW
I'LL LET MY CHIEF TORTURER
SEE WHAT HE CAN PULL OUT
OF YOU!



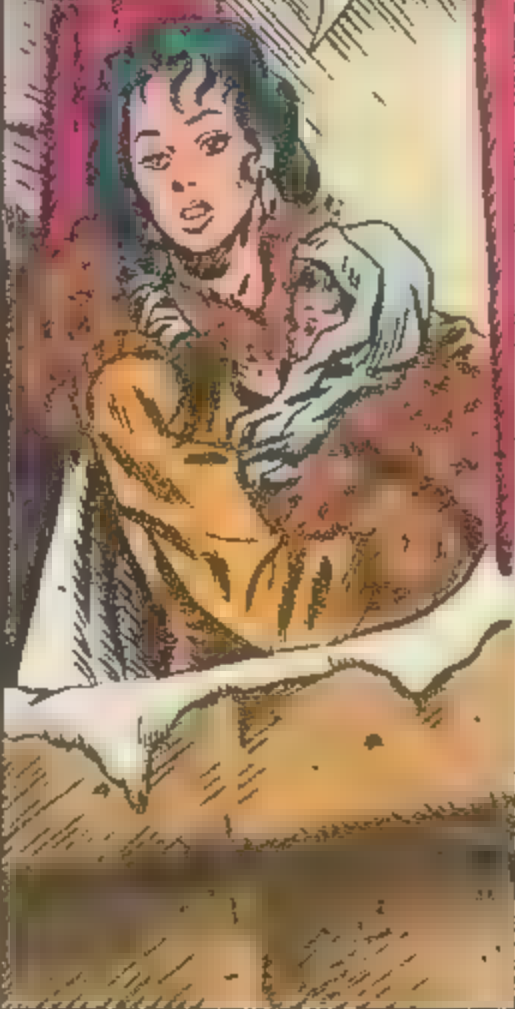
PATIENCE, YOUR
HIGHNESS. PATIENCE!

THE ROAD OF A KING... SO DID APPRENTICE
TARANT A WITH THE WORD OF THE KING'S
ARRIVAL

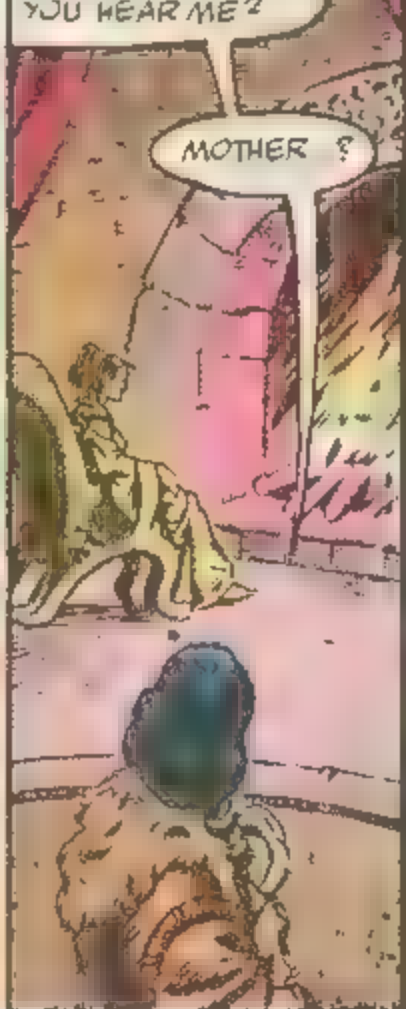


THERE'S A
HORSEMAN RIDING
FOR THE MAIN
GATE, MOTHER.

IT MUST BE FATHER'S HERALD.
HE'LL BE HOME SOON.



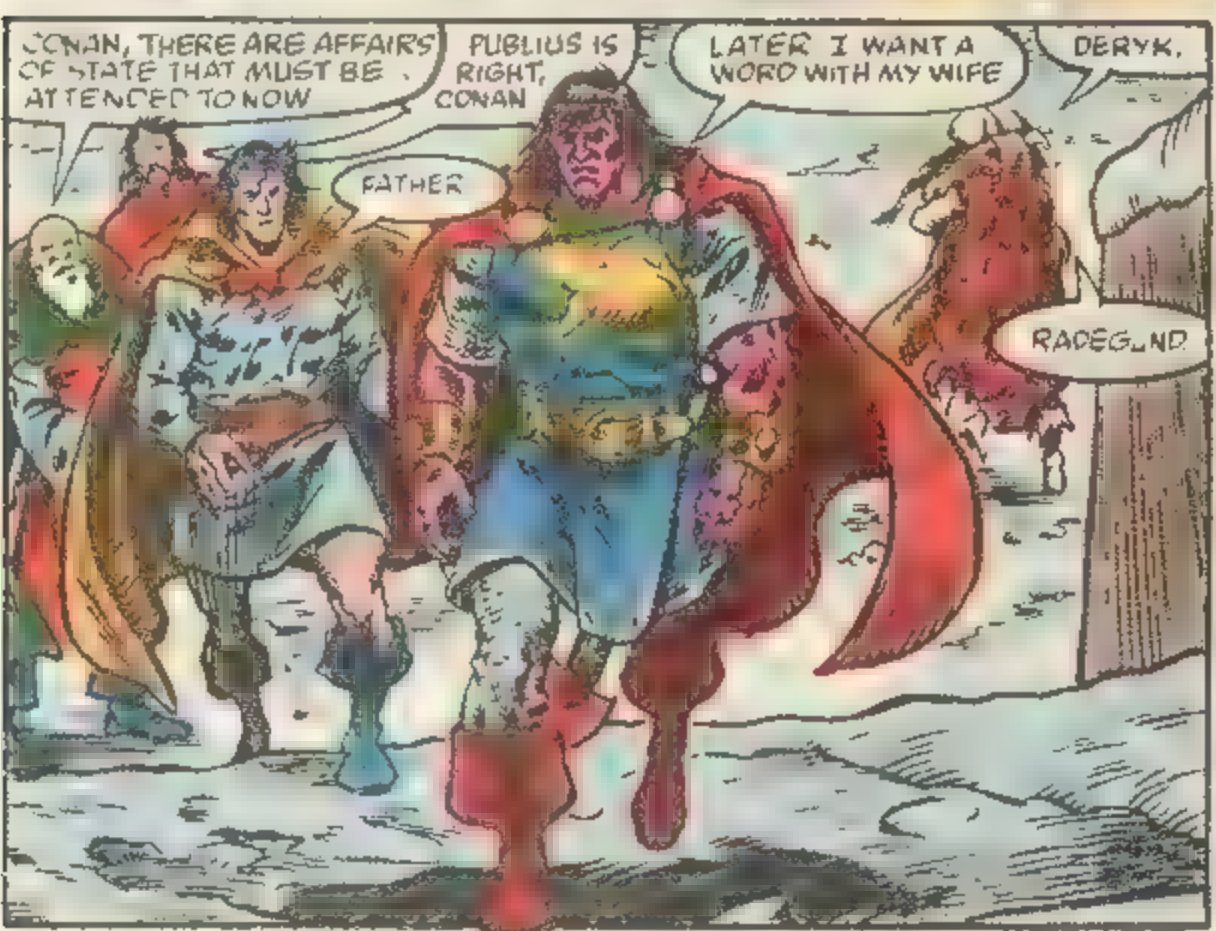
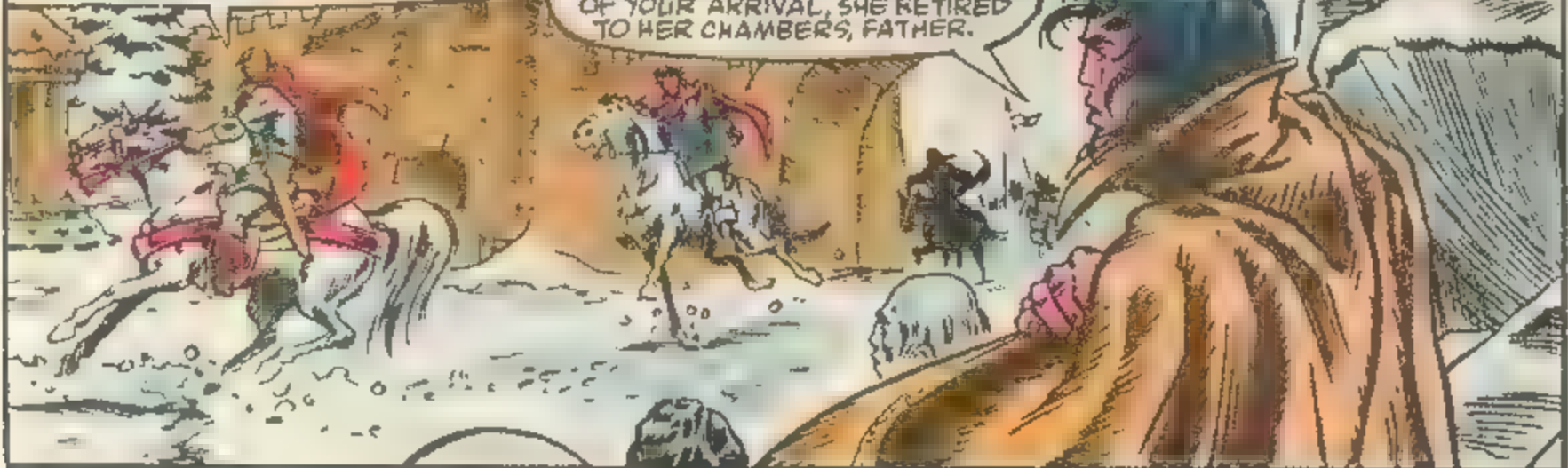
MOTHER I SAID
FATHER SHOULD BE
HOME SOON DIDN'T
YOU HEAR ME?



MOTHER ?

WHERE IS YOUR MOTHER, CONAN ?

WHEN THE HERALD BROUGHT NEWS
OF YOUR ARRIVAL, SHE RETIRED
TO HER CHAMBERS, FATHER.



CONAN, THERE ARE AFFAIRS
OF STATE THAT MUST BE
ATTENDED TO NOW

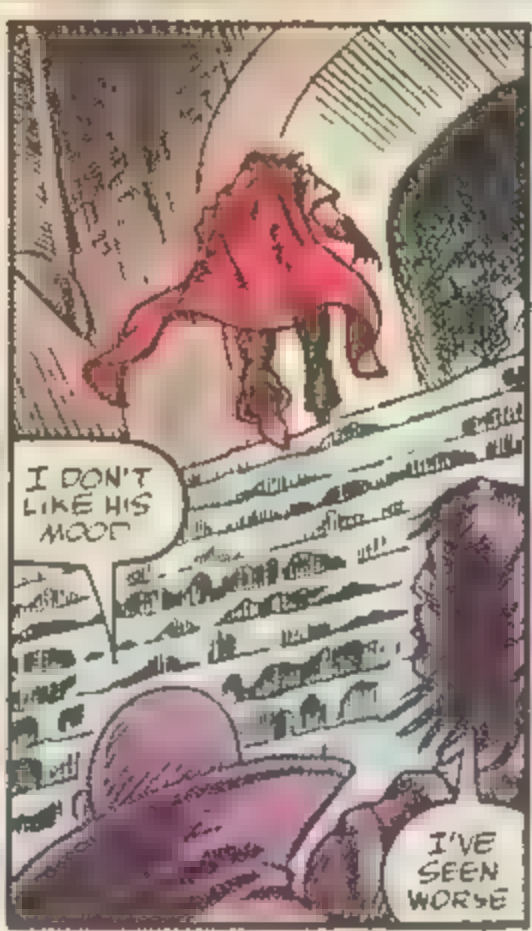
PUBLIUS IS
RIGHT,
CONAN

LATER I WANT A
WORD WITH MY WIFE

DERYK.

FATHER

RADEGLIND



I DON'T
LIKE HIS
MOOD

I'VE
SEEN
WORSE

RAEGUND TAKE ROLF AND
LEAVE US. I WANT TO SPEAK
TO YOUR MOTHER ALONE

BE GENTLE WITH
HER, FATHER.

I WISH YOU'D PAY MORE
ATTENTION TO YOUR
GRANDSON. I THINK HE
LIKES YOU.

I'D LIKE
NOTHING BETTER
THAN TO SPEND
TIME WITH HIM
BUT FIRST I NEED
TO SPEND TIME
WITH THE
QUEEN

THEN REMEMBER
BE GENTLE.

SHE SEEMS
TO BE
ANGRY.

ZENOBIA, IT'S TIME WE CAME
TO AN UNDERSTANDING.

I AM TIRED OF TRYING TO
UNDERSTAND CONAN. I AM TIRED
OF WAITING FOR YOU

THEN WHAT
DO YOU
WANT?

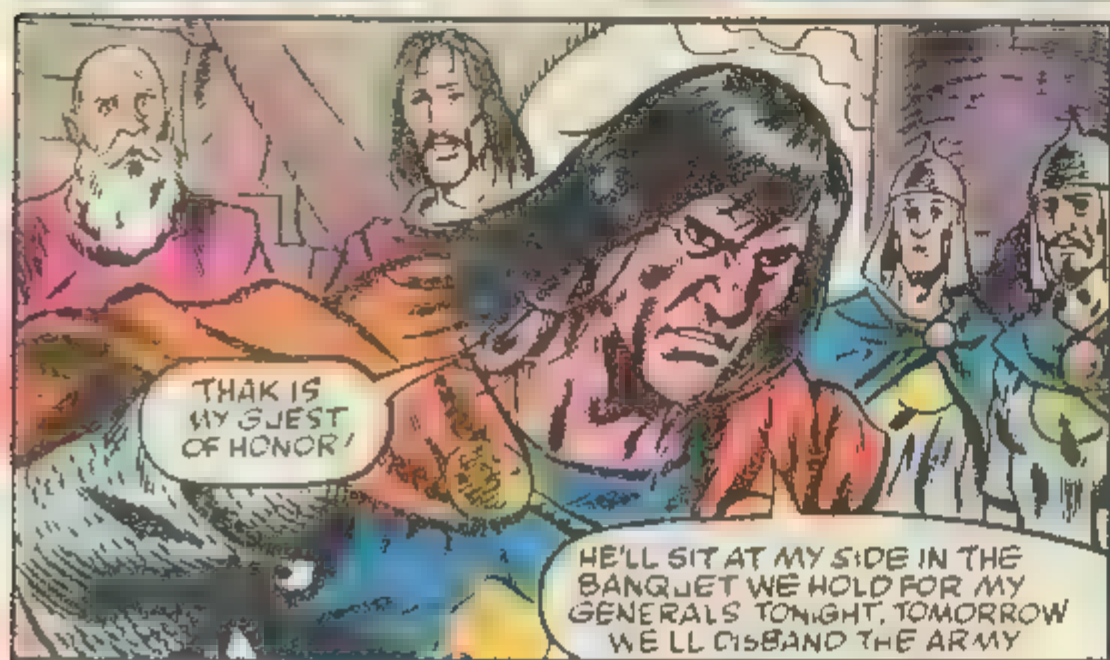
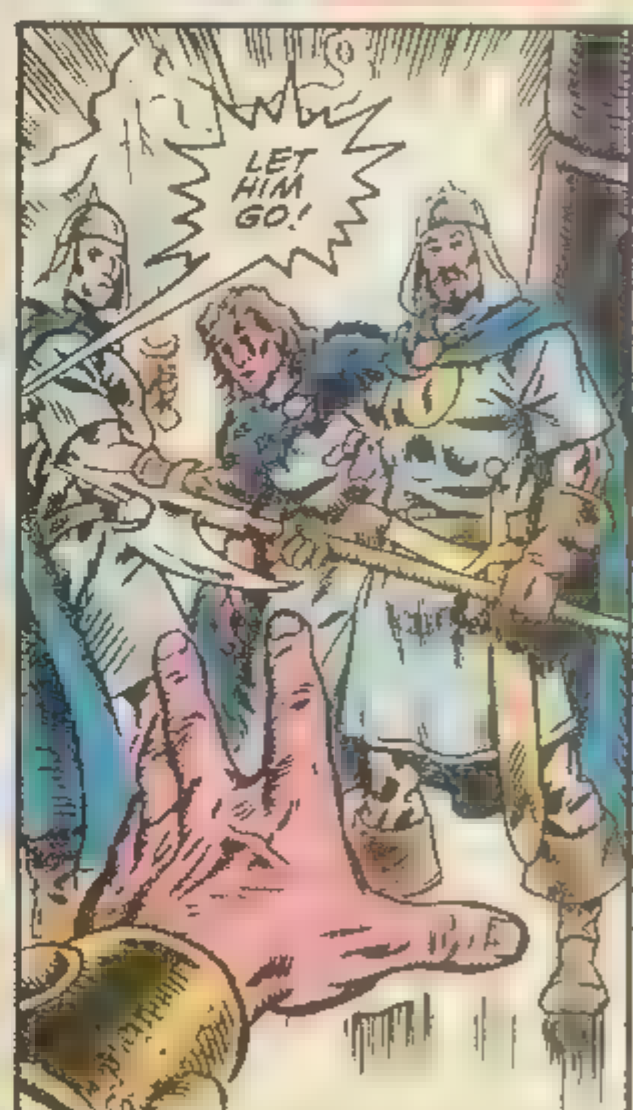
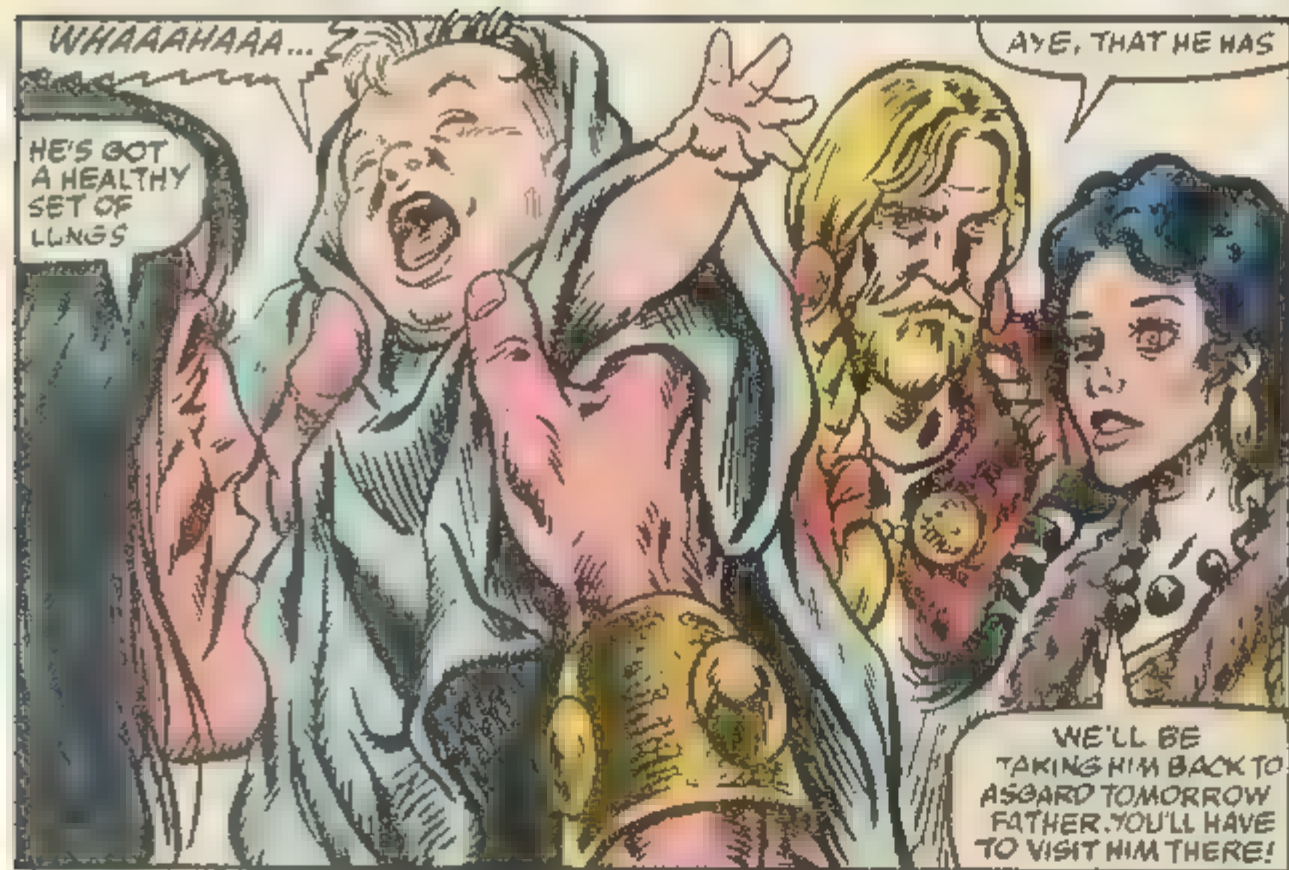
I AM NOT SURE
YET. BUT UNTIL I
AM I'LL BE YOUR
WIFE IN NAME
ONLY.

I CAN'T BRING
OUR CHILD BACK TO
LIFE ZENOBIA.

AND I
DON'T
KNOW
WHAT
ELSE TO
DO.

I THINK MY SON WANTS
TO WELCOME HIS GRAND-
FATHER BACK.

IT IS GOOD TO
KNOW THAT
SOMEONE
DOES.



...TWO MONTHS
...THE WAY
...THE
...THE

SCIPIO? I PROMOTED HIM TO
ENSIGN MYSELF. HE HAS OWN
GREAT DEVOTION TO HIS
DUTIES AT COURT DURING
THE WARS.

LATER, AFTER SCIPIO HAS ARRANGED FOR
THAT EVENING'S BANQUET, HE MAKES HIS WAY
BACK TO HIS QUARTERS IN THE OLD QUARTER
OF TARANTIA...

AND IN THE DARKNESS
OF THE WINTER NIGHT,
HIS TRUE SELF BEGINS

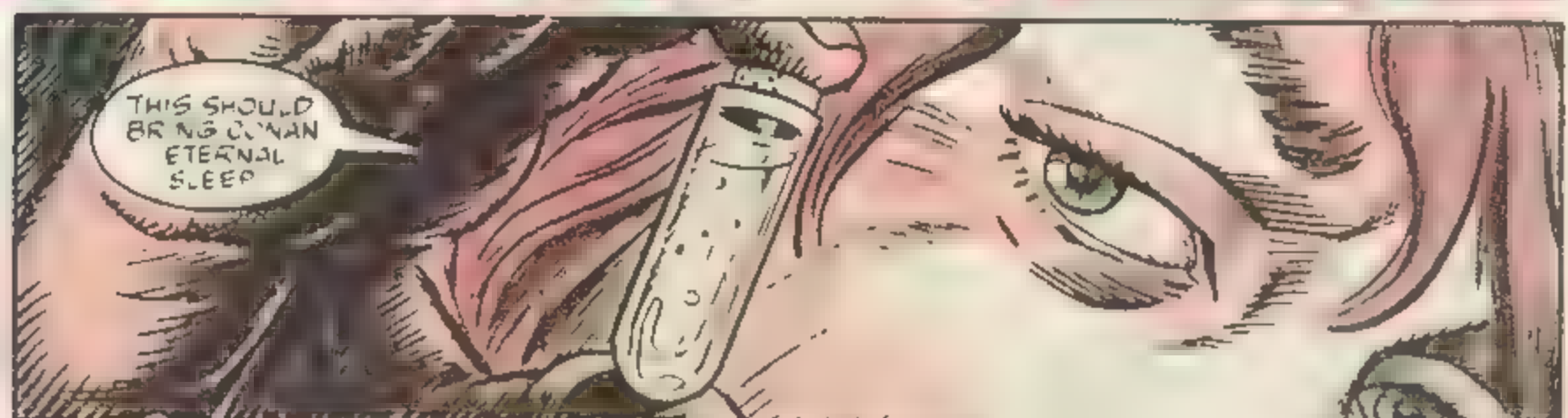
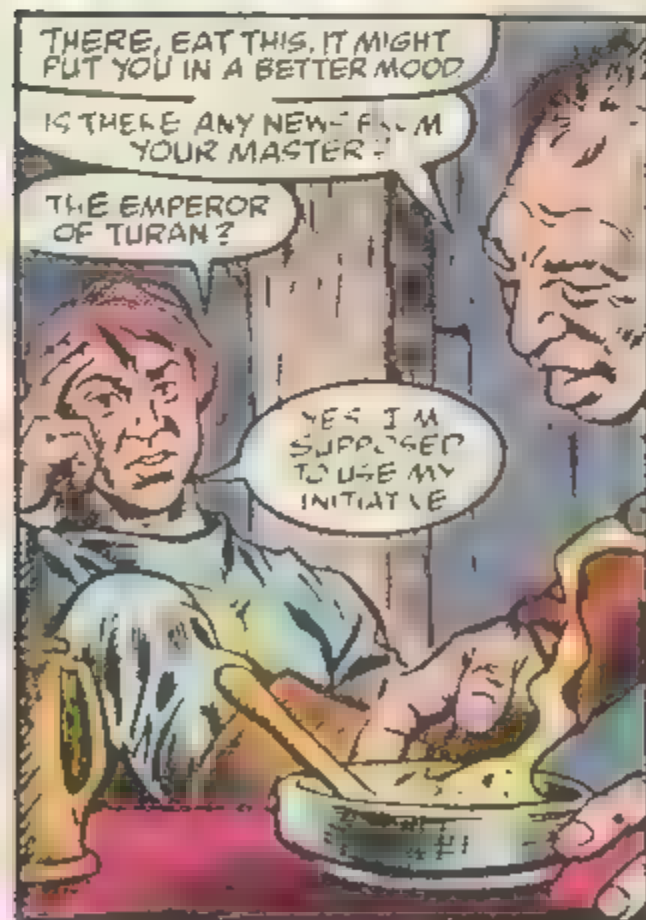
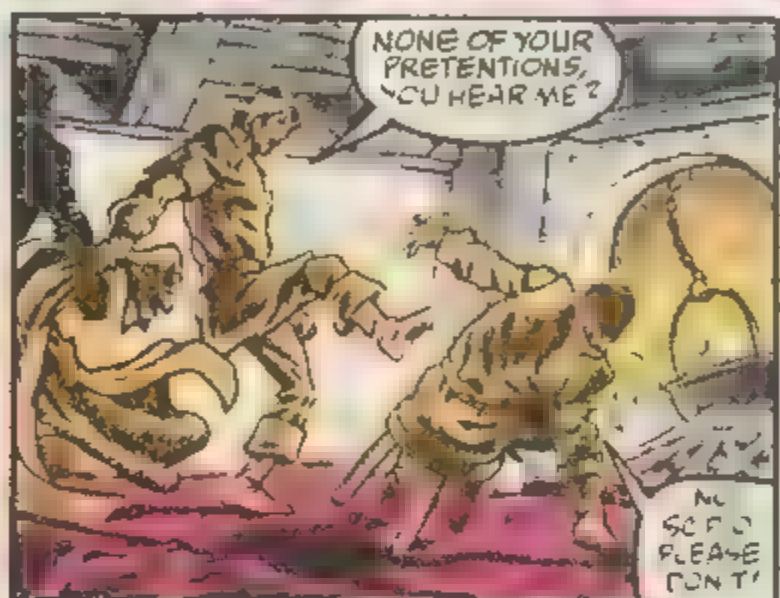
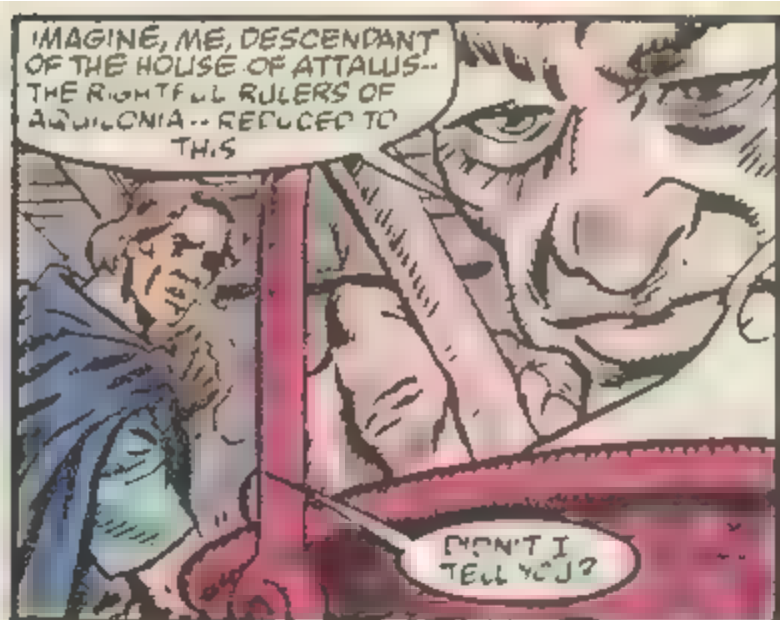
GET OUT OF MY
WAY YOU LUN

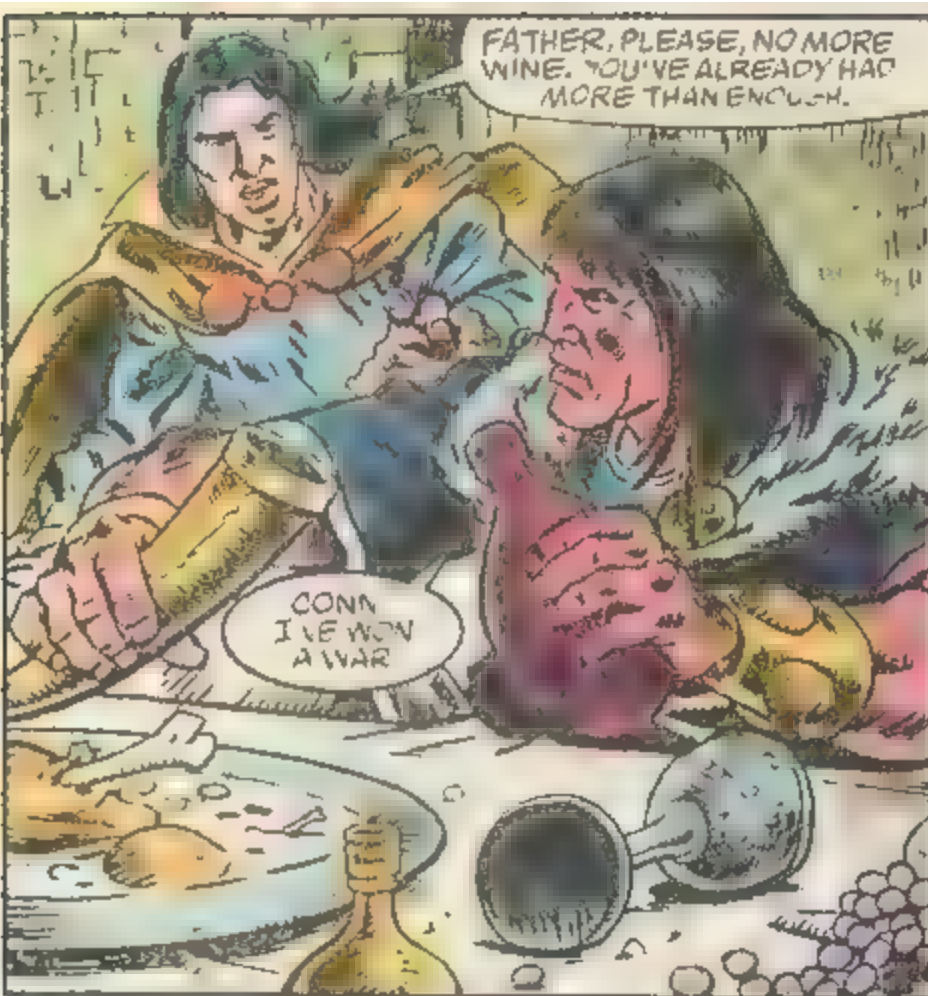
WILL
COME TO
CALL MY
BATH
LADY?

THERE--THAT SHOULD
TEACH YOU TO KEEP
OUT OF MY WAY.

MY
CLAY IN
YOU

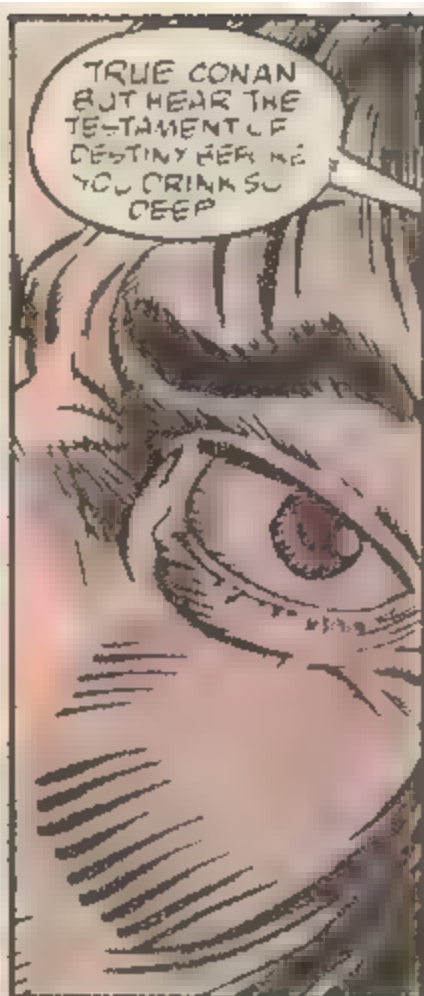
AH, GAVIC, EVER THE
DEVOTED FOLLOWER.
WHAT'S FOR SUPPER?





FATHER, PLEASE, NO MORE WINE. YOU'VE ALREADY HAD MORE THAN ENOUGH.

CONN I'VE WON A WAR

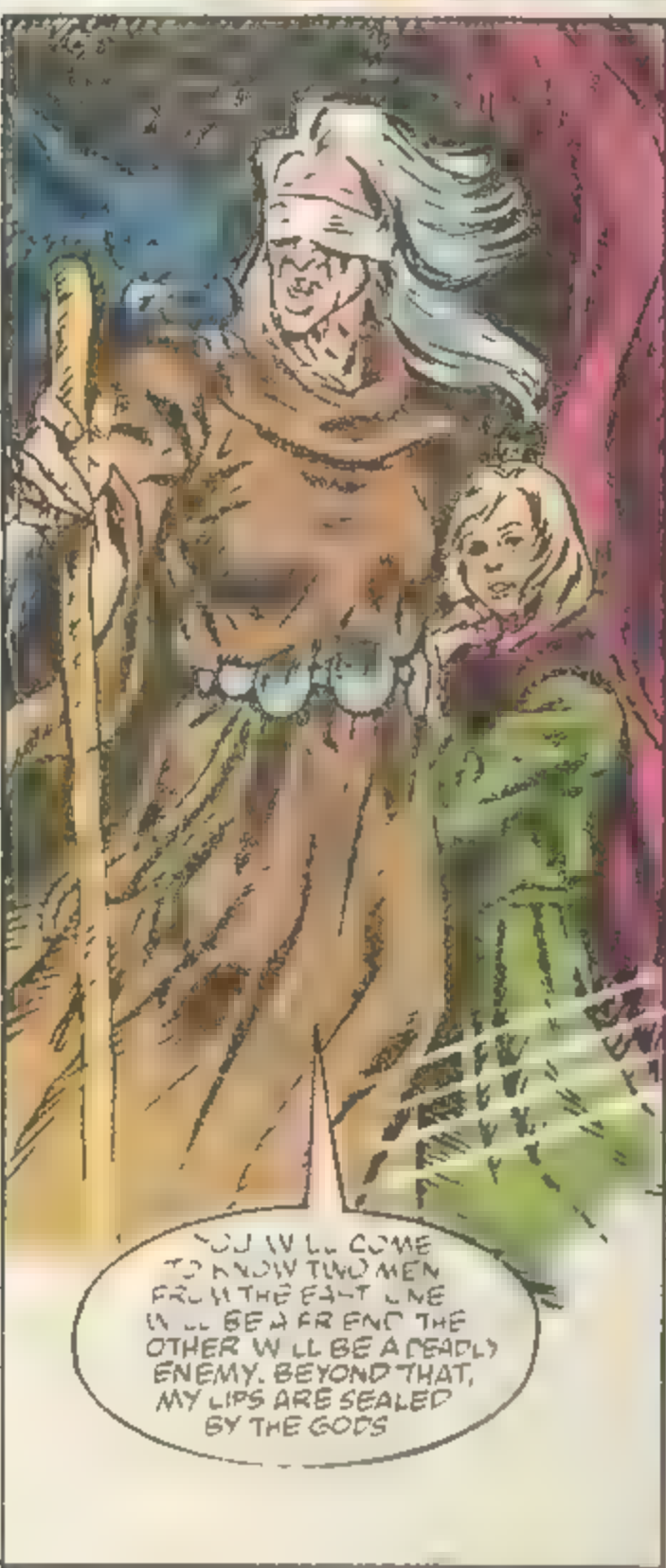


TRUE CONAN BUT HEAR THE TESTAMENT OF DESTINY HER HE YOU DRINK SO DEEP

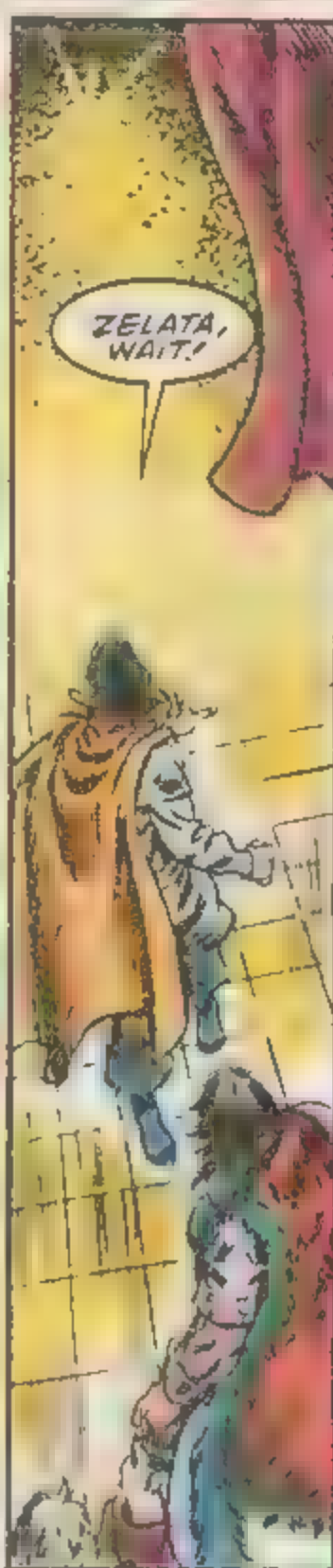


AYE, IT IS I ZELATA!

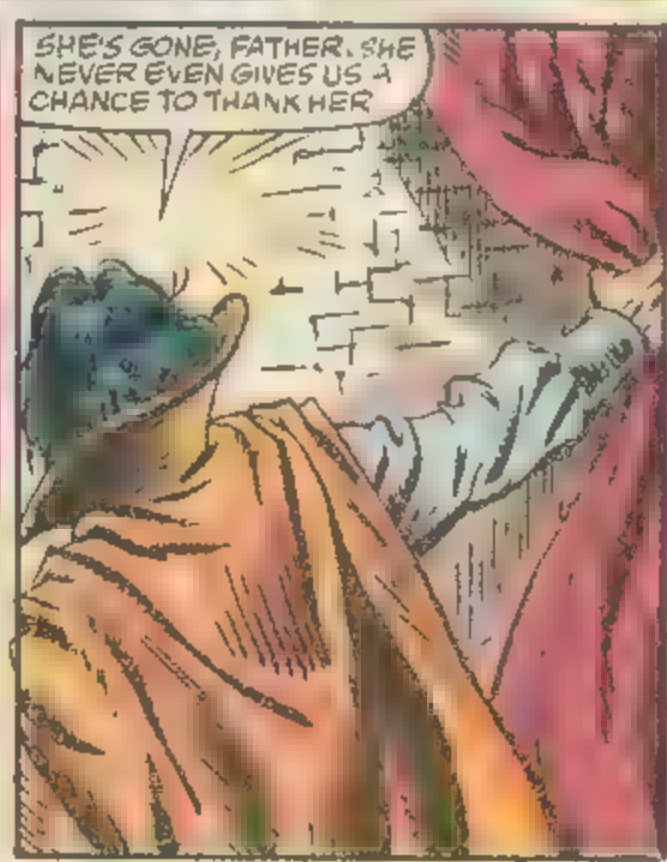
PAY HEED TO MY WORDS!



YOU WILL COME TO KNOW TWO MEN FROM THE EAST ONE WILL BE A FRIEND THE OTHER WILL BE A DEADLY ENEMY. BEYOND THAT, MY LIPS ARE SEALED BY THE GODS



ZELATA, WAIT!



SHE'S GONE, FATHER. SHE NEVER EVEN GIVES US A CHANCE TO THANK HER



I'M SICK OF PROPHECIES. LET'S HAVE SOME MORE WINE

HOW DID YOU BECOME
A KING CONAN, YOU... A
BARBARIAN LIKE ME?

JUST HOW DID I
BECOME A KING? THAT
I WONDER MYSELF!

I SUPPOSE IT STARTED
WHEN I WAS A YOUNG MAN IN
ARMS IN THE SERVICE OF PRINCESS
REGENT YASMELA OF KHORAJA
OVER THIRTY YEARS AGO...

"THE PRINCESS SAW ME AS THE FULFILLMENT
OF THE PROPHECY OF M-TRA. SHE PICKED ME TO
HEAD HER ARMY IN A DESPERATE CAMPAIGN."

"AND WHEN I WORE THE
ROYAL ARMOR OF KHORAJA
THE PRINCESS'S GENERAL,
COUNT ALMURIC SAID...

BY M-TRA CONAN
YOU'D LOOK LIKE A KING!

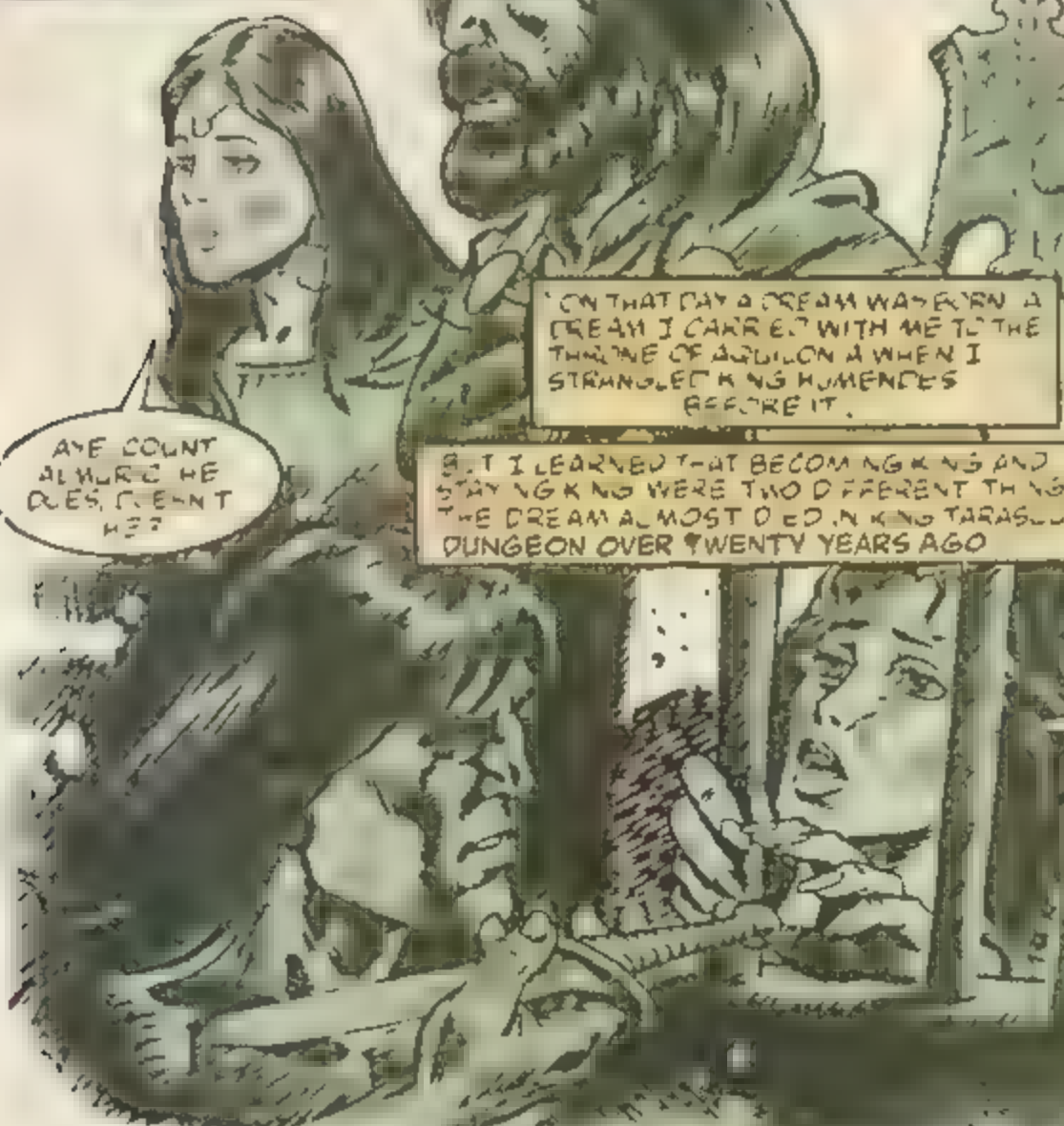
"ON THAT DAY A DREAM WAS BORN. A
DREAM I CARRIED WITH ME TO THE
THRONE OF AQUILON WHEN I
STRANGLER KING HUMENDES
BEFORE IT.

BUT I LEARNED THAT BECOMING KING AND
STAYING KING WERE TWO DIFFERENT THINGS.
THE DREAM ALMOST DIED IN KING TARASUS'S
DUNGEON OVER TWENTY YEARS AGO.

ARE COUNT
ALMURIC HE
DIES, DIDN'T
HE?

I AM ONLY ZENOBIAS,
ONLY A GIRL OF THE KING'S
SERaglio, AND I HAVE
LOVED YOU EVER SINCE
I FIRST SAW YOU.

"THE DREAM WOULD HAVE
DIED IF IT HADN'T BEEN FOR
THE GIRL I MADE MY
QUEEN.



"SHE GAVE ME A SON AND AN HEIR"

"SHE SAID HER FAREWELL TO ME BEFORE I MARCHED TO FIGHT THE PICTS FIVE YEARS AGO."

CONAN II..

AYE BUT WE'LL CALL HIM 'CONN'."

BETWEEN US THERE ARE NO "GOODBYES"

"AND WE SHARED OUR GRIEF AT THE DEATH OF OUR SON, TAURUS."

"AND GRIEVED AGAIN AT THE LOSS OF THE CHILD WHO DIED AT BIRTH..."

"HOW DO I BECOME KING?"

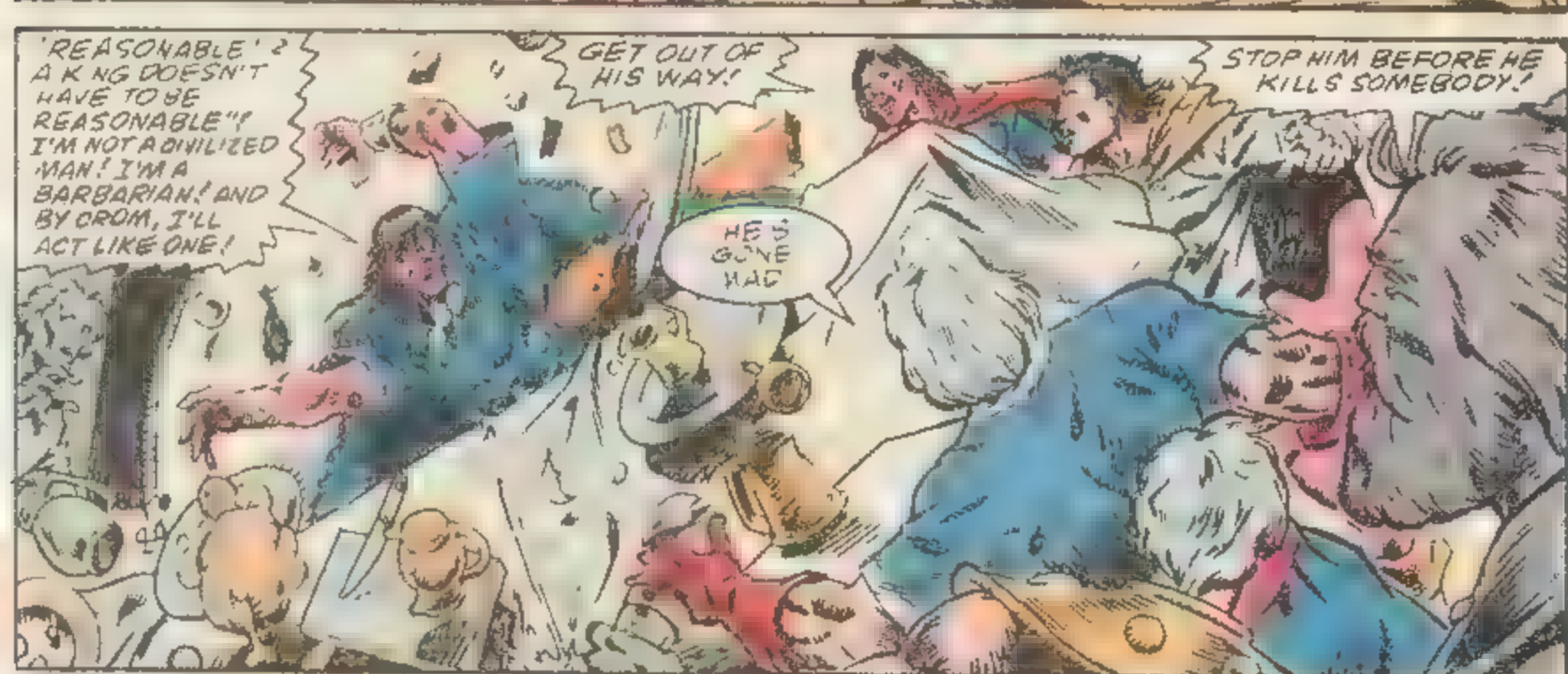
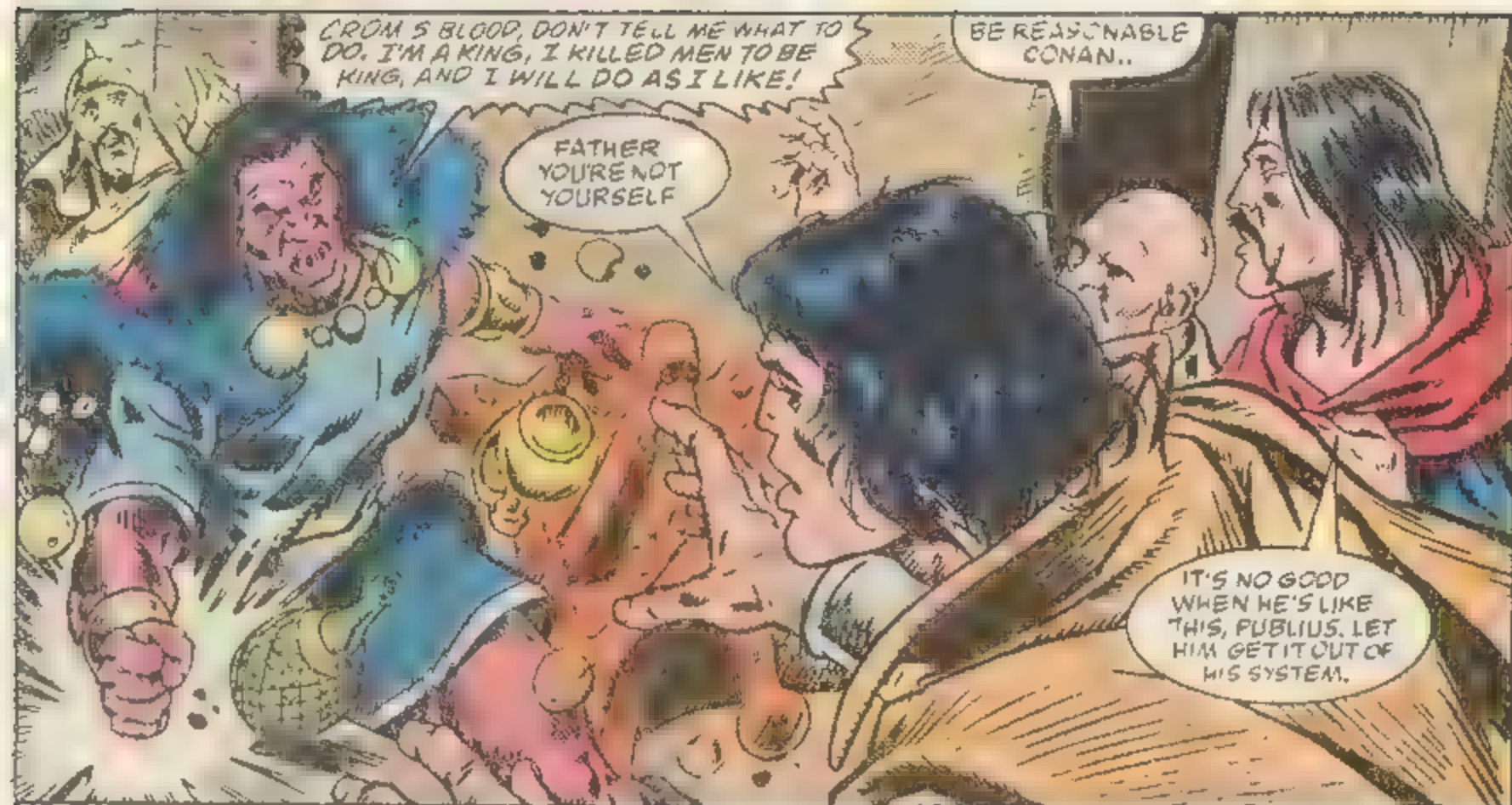
BY SOME JEST OF THE GODS I CAN'T UNDERSTAND.

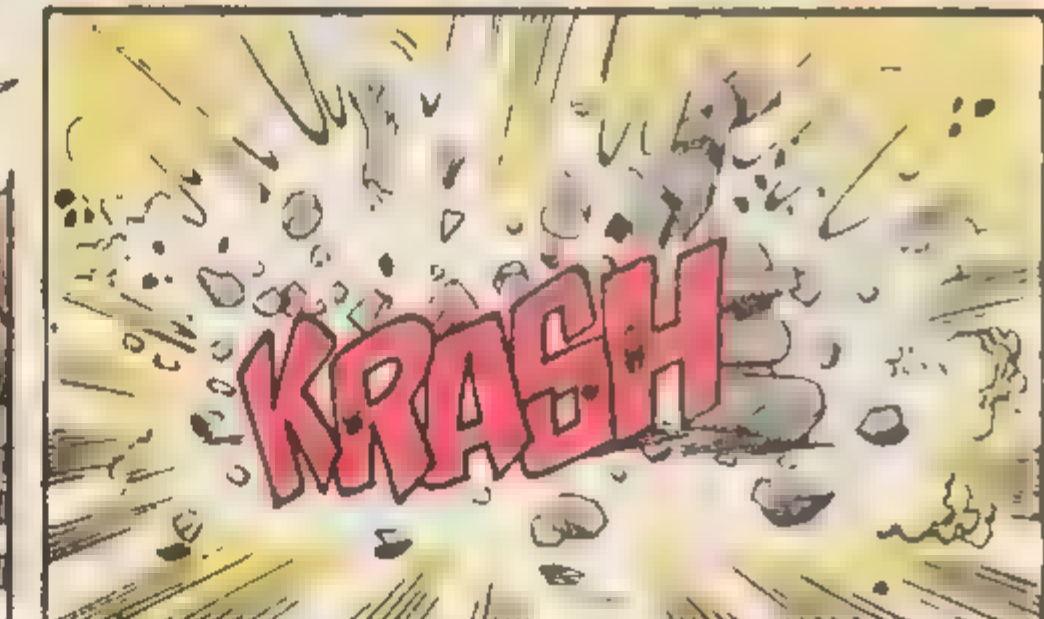
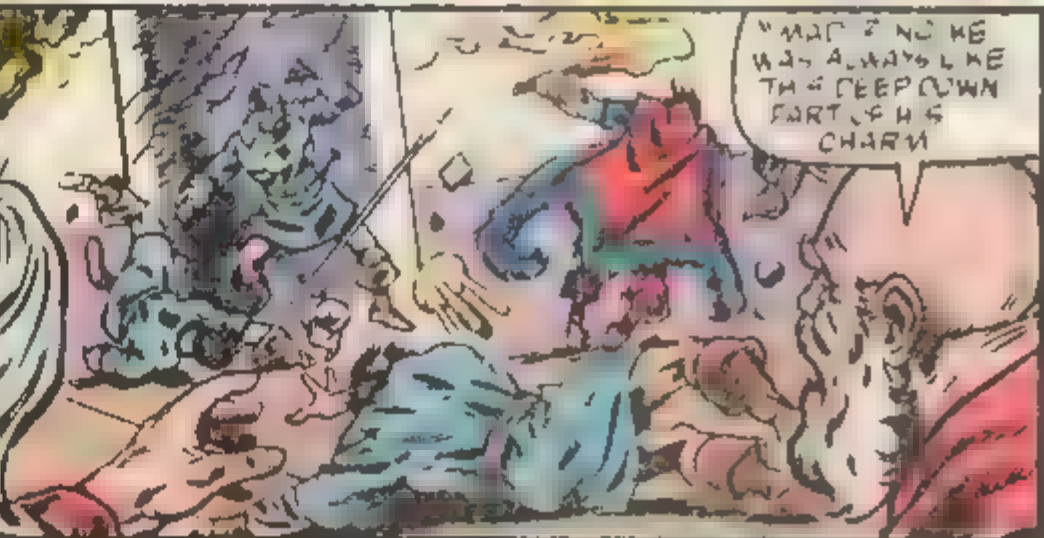
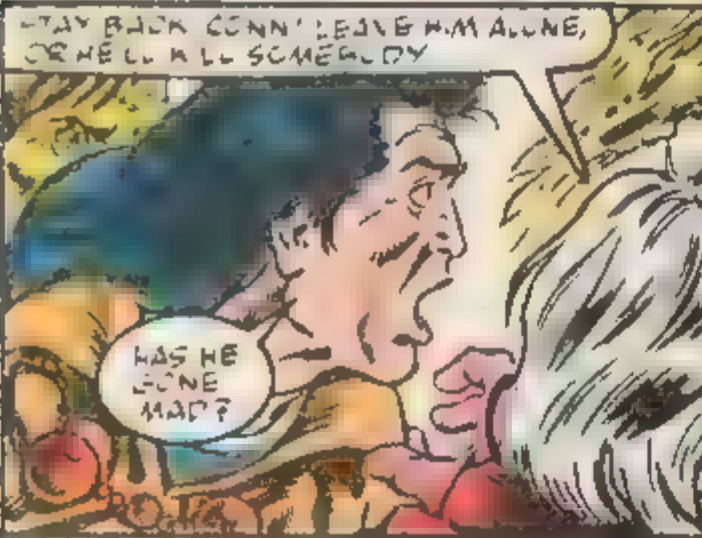
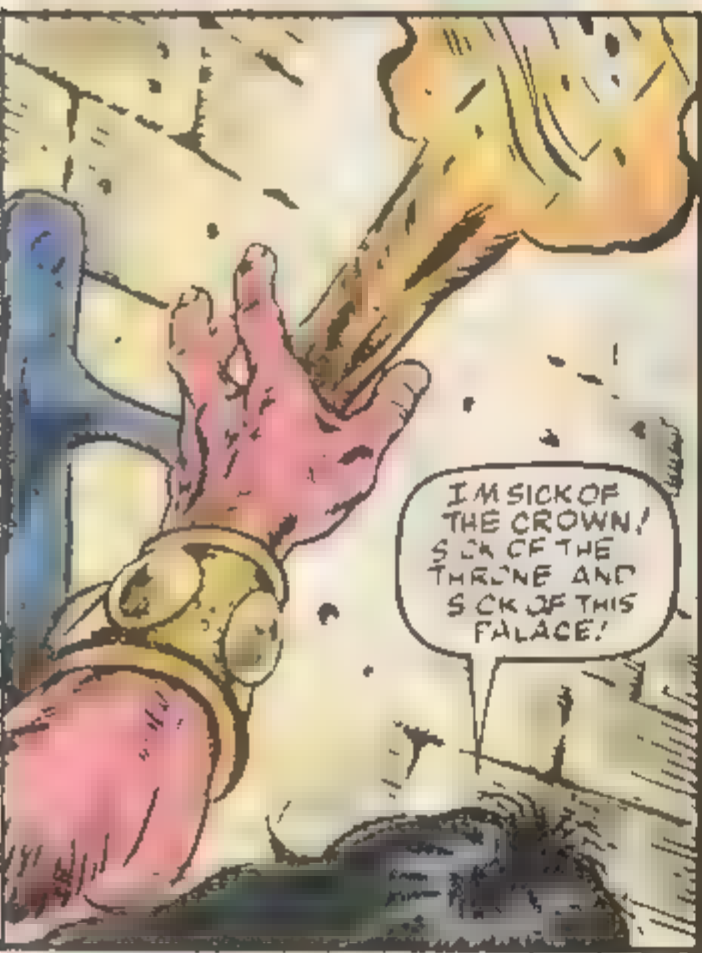
I'VE LOST TWO SONS AS WELL KING CONAN A MAN LEARNS TO LIVE WITH IT EVEN IF HE NEVER GETS OVER IT

FATHER DON'T TORTMENT YOURSELF

LISTEN TO CONN, MY FRIEND.

AYE THIS BROODING IS NO GOOD.





HAVE YOU LOST YOUR SENSES?



WHAT?
WHY CARE?

WAAAAAAHAAA-
NAAAAHAAA



RAGEBUND ?
ROLF ?

YOU'VE
AWAKENED
YOUR GRANDSON
WE NEED OUR
REST FATHER
WE HAVE A LONG
JOURNEY IN THE
WORN NO.

WAAAAHAAA
WAAAAHAAA..



ROLF.

GIVE HIM
TO ME...

FATHER ? WHAT
DO YOU . I MEAN
WHAT



JUST
GIVE
HIM
TO ME

YOU USED TO CRY WHEN
YOU WERE HIS AGE. KEPT
YOUR MOTHER UP HALF
THE NIGHT.



IT'S JUST YOUR
GRANDFATHER, ROLF
OLD KING CONAN

YOU NEVER
TOLD ME



HE'S CALM
NOW. HE LIKES
YOU, FATHER.

THERE..
HE.. SLEEP
NOW

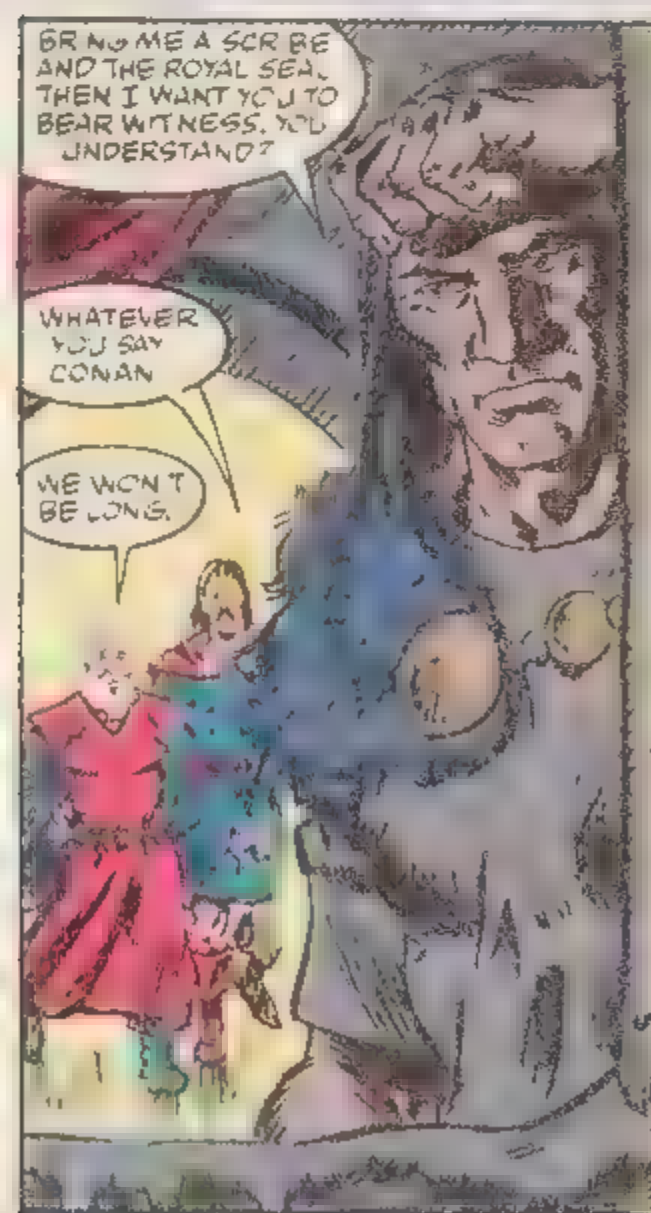
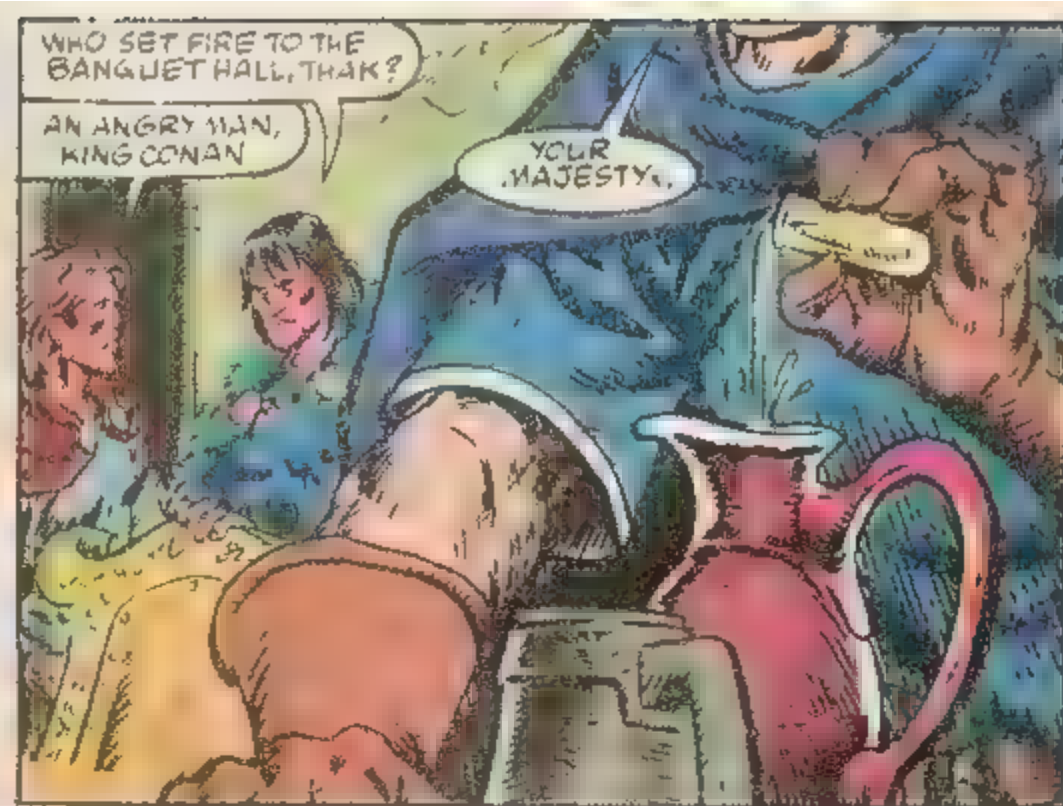


I'M ALMOST
SORRY WE'RE
LEAVING
TOMORROW
FATHER

...LEAVING? OF
COURSE... LEAVING...



BY JAHN
I'LL HAVE
THE FUG
WHO'D
THAT
FLOWER



THE GREAT KING HAS RETURNED LEADING THE AESIR BACK TO ASGARD, TAKING QUEEN
SIF AND THE GOLDEN BRACELETS WITH HIM. HE
LEADS THE CIMMERIANS HOME AS WELL...

TO THE SOUTH, KUAGA LEADS
THE WARRIORS OF THE BLACK
KINGDOM TO THE PORTS OF
ZINGARA, ACCOMPANIED BY
THE ZINGARAN ALLIES...

WINE MY
KING

NO WINE
FOR ME
THAK AND
REMEMBER
YOU'RE
KING
TUTNY

AND YOU SHOULD
DRESS THE PART
HERE!

I NEVER DREAMED TO WEAR SUCH
SPLENDOR. AM I AWAKE OR
DREAMING... COUGH-COUGH

FEEL THE WEIGHT OF THIS
SWORD AND YOU'LL KNOW
FOR SURE

I'D DIE CONTENT
IF I COULD HOLD
THIS SWORD AND
CALL UGHA
LEON

A TOAST TO
KING THAK THE
FIRST... AND THE
LAST.

IN THE TOWER OF ACTIVE WENT N ANRAPHUR.

WHY DON'T
YOU CALL ME
ARINARONODUS,
IT'S FRIENDLY
YES OL BOY

FOR THE LAST
TIME MAGICIAN
SHARE YOUR
SECRET.



YES I WANT TO BE FRIENDLY WANT TO
COOPERATE. LIKE TO SEE ME DANCE A
SOFT-SHOE? NO?

UH WHAT
WAS IT YOU
WANTED?

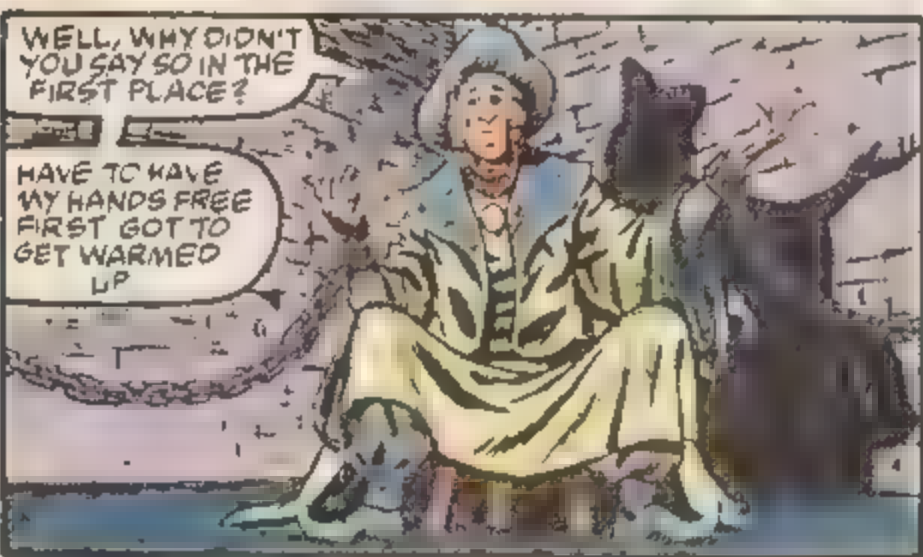


TELEPORTATION!



WELL, WHY DIDN'T
YOU SAY SO IN THE
FIRST PLACE?

HAVE TO HAVE
MY HANDS FREE
FIRST GOT TO
GET WARMED
UP



IT COULD BE A TRICK,
YOUR HIGHNESS.

IT COULD BE, BUT
YOU'LL BE WATCHING
HIM CLOSELY,
CAPTAIN.



AH THAT'S
LOVELY
LOVELY





THAT'S BETTER, BUT THIS IS A HARD ONE TO PULL OFF WITH CHAFED WRISTS.

GOT ANY PETROLEUM JELLY ON YOU?

OOPS, HASN'T BEEN INVENTED YET. SORRY.

NOW LET ME SEE... OH, YES, GOT TO GET WARMED UP THAT'S IT!



I'VE GOT IT "RA, RA, SIS KOOM BAH..." NO, THAT'S NOT IT!

"BOOLA, BOOLA, BOOLA, BOOLA" NOPE, THAT'S NOT IT!

YOU'RE TRYING MY PATIENCE...



"WAY DOWN UPON THE SWANEE RIVER..." NO, NOT THAT...

...MAGICIAN...



WAIT! I'VE GOT IT!

ABBRAKADABBRA...



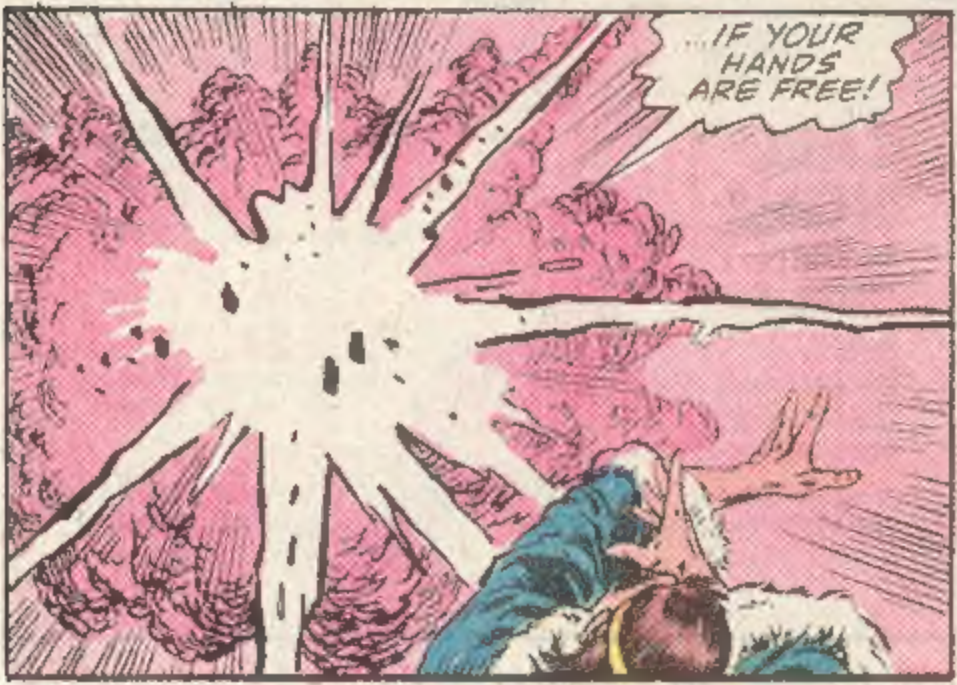
JUST WHAT WAS IT YOU WANTED NOW?

TELEPORTATION, YOU DOLT!



WELL, THAT'S SIMPLE ENOUGH.

ESPECIALLY...



...IF YOUR HANDS ARE FREE!



VANISHED! AND MADE A FOOL OF ME!

...BUT HE'LL PAY WHEN I'VE
CONQUERED EVERY LAND UNDER
THE SUN THERE'LL BE NO PLACE
WHERE HE CAN HIDE, FOR ALL
HIS MAGIC!



IN TARANTIA...



THIS ZINGARAN
RED IS A WINE FIT
FOR A KING!

NOW HOW SHALL I
SPEND MY DAY ON
THE THRONE?

I'LL DECLARE A HOLIDAY!
THAT'S IT. FOR ONE DAY,
CRUELTY AND INJUSTICE
WILL BE BANISHED!



BANISHED BY ORDER
OF KING THAK.



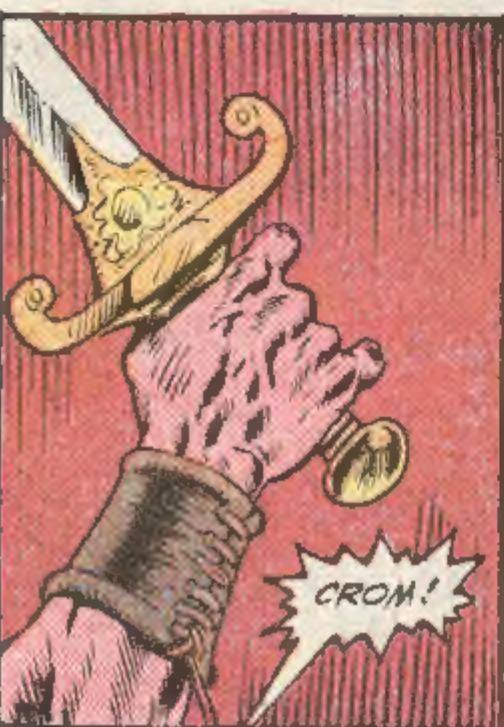
ACCCH...



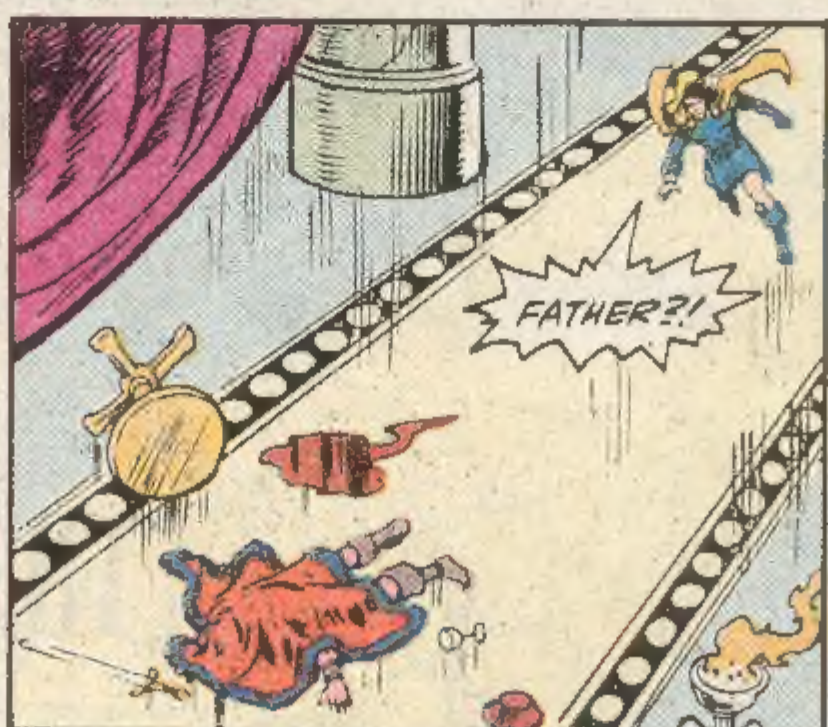
UHHH...
UHHH...
UHHH...



...CAN'T...
CAN'T
BREATHE...



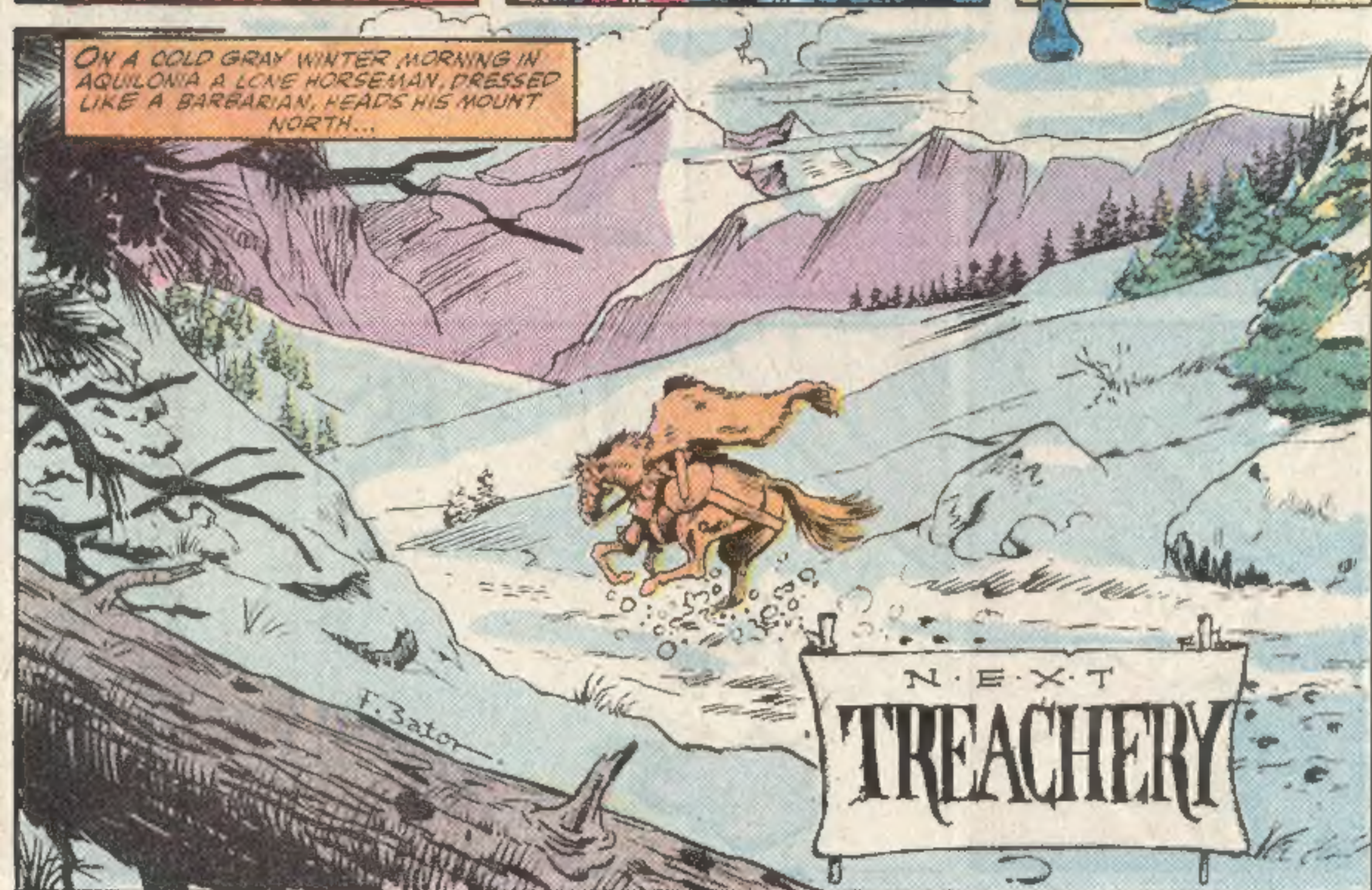
CROM!



FATHER?!



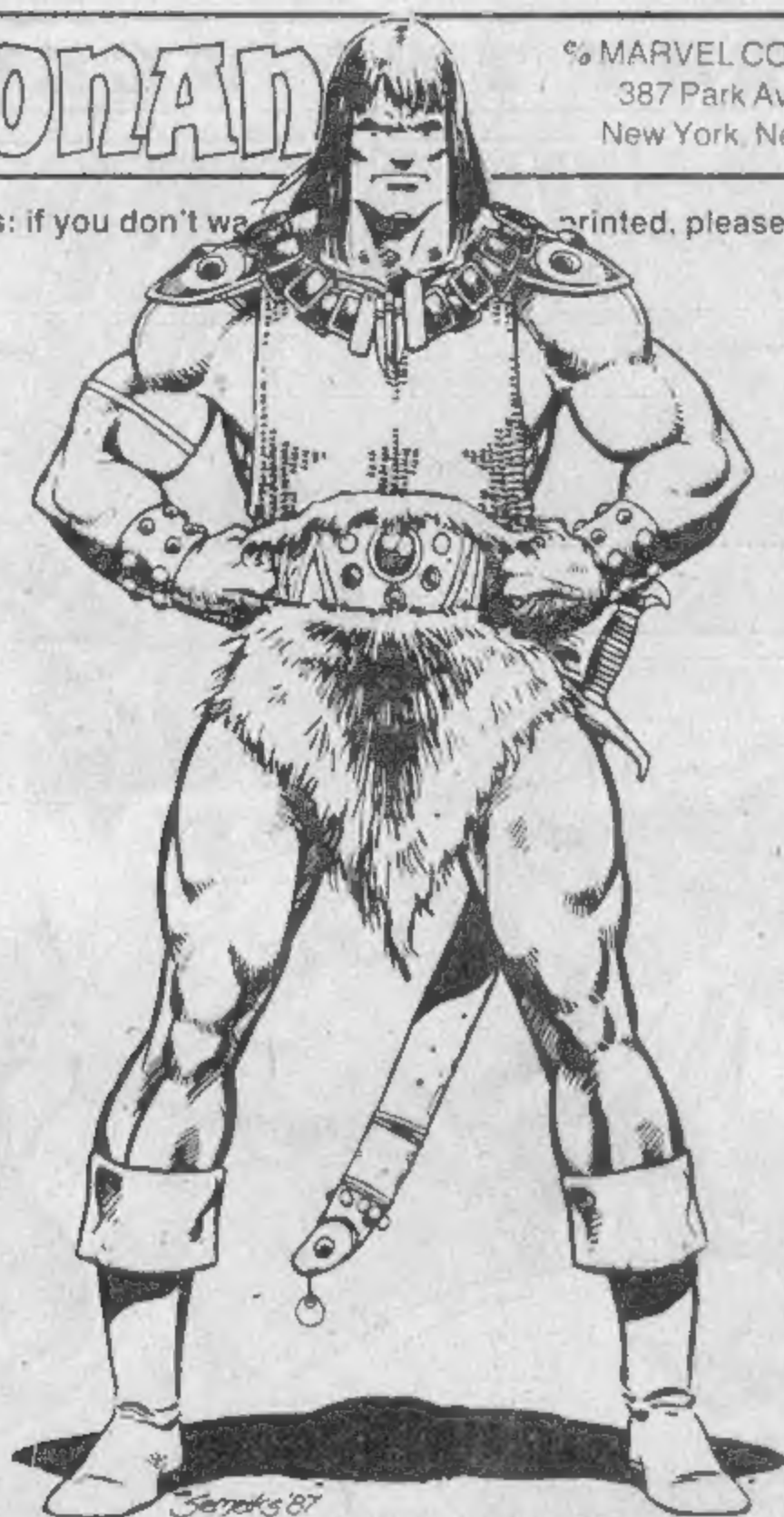
POISON...?



KING CONAN

© MARVEL COMICS GROUP
387 Park Avenue South
New York, New York 10016

Attention correspondents: if you don't want your letter printed, please be sure to tell us so!



Dear Nemedian Chroniclers,

End the war! We've tried of reading about it. We've had enough of this Alexander the Great-cum-Dallas gerrymandering and filibustering. Where's the focus? Sure, everybody and his brother loves a gory fight scene, but you guys sacrifice the immediate thrill of the wailin' closeup for a supposed super-war. But that super-war lacked interesting intricacies and the overall scope of it was lame. Back to work! Get Busy! Do something with this comic book!

Hal Djallalekek
Staten Island, NY

We hear you, Hal. Look for a new team and a new direction as of issue #50. We're going back to an earlier era in King Conan's life, bringing back thrills, chills and spills.

Dear Conan The King People,

I had always been afraid to pick up a CONAN THE KING, because I like Conan so much as a young warrior. I was worried that you'd draw him as an old man with a beard who just sat on his throne all day. Boy, was I wrong. He is still a warrior and a fighter, even though he is old and has a son. He can still fight with the best of them.

I have started getting the back issues now.

Conan as a barbarian or as a king, I'll take him either way. Conan will always be king. Long Live the KING.

Jonathan Parker
146 South Street
Denver, CO 80209

Dear Kings,

I can't remember the last time I picked up a CONAN THE KING. But last week I did. I liked the story (it was issue #46) and the artwork. I thought the coloring was a bit off, but luckily it didn't affect the story too much.

I always read CONAN THE BARBARIAN and SAVAGE SWORD too. Heck, sometimes I pick up CONAN SAGA just to catch up on some of the stories I missed the first time around.

I like the art work in all the Conan comics. But there is one thing I want to know. Is Mike Kaluta ever going to come back and do some of those fantastic covers for CONAN THE KING? I hope so. Keep up the good work, you guys.

Otis Robinson
(No Address Given)

Otis, you'll be happy to hear that Mike Kaluta is back doing the covers as of issue #50.

Dear Marvel,

I liked CONAN THE KING #46 because it was the kind of comic my mom warned me about. It had wicked action and muscle and leather and more action. Don Kraar is the greatest writer since Shakespeare, and Docherty and Bator beat the pants off Picasso. I mean whoever saw the stuff he drew? But enough high brow junk. You guys are the greatest and I just want you to know I'm gonna buy this comic till I drop.

Bob Sherwin
New York, NY 10014

Thanks for the praise, Bob.

To Whom It May Concern

Jim Owsley! Bring him back!

Steve Owsley (no relation)
(No Address Given)

To Whom It Does Concern,
Will do!

Dear Barbarians,

I love CONAN THE KING — always have, always will. Just wanted you to know that.

Tina McElroy
Middleburg Heights, OH